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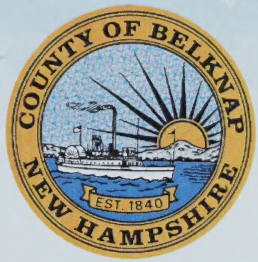
County of Belknap New Hampshire



2009 Report of the Belknap County Commissioners

For the Year Ending December 31, 2009

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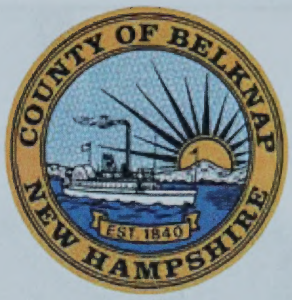
Board of Commissioners

Christopher D. Boothby, Chairman
Meredith, NH
District #3 Commissioner
Alton, Center Harbor, Gilford, Meredith, New Hampton

Edward D. Philpot, Jr., Vice Chairman
Laconia, NH
District #1 Commissioner
Laconia

Richard W. Long, Clerk
Belmont, NH
District #2 Commissioner
Barnstead, Belmont, Gilmanton, Sanborton, Tilton



Belknap County Seal

The seal of Belknap County was commissioned in the latter part of 1976, the year of our nation's bicentennial, and adopted in February of 1977. Designed and executed by Mr. Norman M. Dexter of Nashua, who donated his services to Belknap County, the seal includes several symbols important to the county and its history.

Depicted on the waters of Lake Winnipesaukee, the largest body of fresh water in the northeast (which touches the shores of just about every town and city in the county) is the old paddle wheeler Mount Washington. The Mount graced the Big Lake until 1939, when it was destroyed by fire. Yet, to this day it continues to serve as a symbol of the grace, dignity and unique New England character for which the people and the area are known throughout the country. It could be said that the Mount stands for the commerce the Lake has provided for our people, going back to the fishing days of the Indians; for the many recreation and leisure time activities the county has offered its many visitors from throughout the world; and for the great creativity with which the people of Belknap County have used these natural resources to their ultimate advantage and prosperity.

The rising sun – a symbol of hope and renewal as well as the blessings of a patient, graceful Providence – is shown bursting forth over the Mount Belknap, which lies just east of the center in the county. The Mountain is named for Dr. Jeremy Belknap, noted historian, clergyman, and naturalist, after whom the county was named in 1840. Dr. Belknap wrote the first history of New Hampshire, pastored the First Congregational Church at Dover (1766-1786), and founded the Massachusetts Historical Society in 1794.

Originally part of the Strafford County, the County of Belknap was formed by Legislative act in December 1840.

Belknap County, New Hampshire
HISTORY

Form of Government: The County of Belknap, New Hampshire, was established in 1840 under the laws of the State of New Hampshire.

The seat of Belknap County is based in Laconia and provides support to the citizens of ten towns and one city in the form of the following services: Citizens Council on Children and Families, Corrections Facility, County Attorney, Finance, Human Services, Registry of Deeds, Juvenile Restorative Justice, Maintenance, Nursing Home and Sheriff's Department.

The county operates under the Commissioners (Executive Branch consisting of three elected Commissioners) and Convention (Legislative Branch consisting of 18 elected Representatives) form of Government and provides services as authorized by the State statue.

The three member Board of Commissioners (as mandated by New Hampshire Statute RSA 28) are part time elected officials responsible for overall supervision, custody and care of all county departments, buildings and land, and have budgetary oversight of all county expenditures. They are elected into staggered four and two-year terms by the voters of the districts each are assigned to. The annual county budget is prepared by the Commissioners and Department Heads and submitted to the County Convention for final approval.

Table of Contents

Belknap County Officers 6

Belknap County Convention 7

Belknap County Directory 8

Belknap County Commissioners 9

Belknap County Budget Report/Financials. 12

Report of the County Attorney 20

Report of the Department of Corrections 24

Report of the Nursing Home 28

Report of the Registry of Deeds 31

Report of the Sheriff's Department 33

Report of Youth Services Department 38

Report of the Maintenance Department 41

Report of the Belknap County Citizen's Council 44

Report of the Economic Development Council 47

Report of the Cooperative Extension 52

Report of the Conservation District 63

Report of Genesis Behavioral Health 67

Minutes of the County Convention 69

2009 Belknap County Officers

COMMISSIONERS
Christopher D. Boothby, Chairman – Meredith
Edward D. Philpot, Jr., Vice-Chairman – Laconia
Richard W. Long, Clerk – Belmont

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
Debra A. Shackett - Gilmanton

TREASURER
Michael G. Muzzey – Laconia

COUNTY ATTORNEY
James Carroll - Laconia

SHERIFF
Craig Wiggin - Meredith

REGISTRAR OF DEEDS
Barbara R. Luther - Laconia

CORRECTIONS SUPERINTENDENT
Richard A. Grenier – Gilford

YOUTH SERVICES PROGRAM DIRECTOR
Brian J. Loanes - Belmont

NURSING HOME ADMINISTRATOR
Courtney Marshall – Grantham

HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR
Norman C. O'Neil – Laconia

CITIZEN'S COUNCIL ON CHILDREN & FAMILIES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Alan Robichaud – Belmont

DIRECTOR OF MAINTENANCE
Harold Powell - Alton

CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT
Dana W. Zucker – Gilford

JUDGE OF PROBATE
Christina M. O'Neil – Laconia

REGISTRAR OF PROBATE
Karen H. Brickner – Laconia

COUNTY CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER
Thomas A. Andrew – C.M.E.

COUNTY CHAPLAIN
Reverend Edward Bastille

2009
Belknap County Convention
(Legislative Delegation) (18)

District No. 1
Center Harbor, New Hampton (1)
Francine Wendelboe (R) – New Hampton

District No. 2
Sanbornton, Tilton (2)
Dennis Fields (R) – Sanbornton
Elizabeth "Liz" Merry (D) - Sanbornton

District No. 3
Meredith (2)
Kate Miller (D)
Stephen H. Nedeau (R)

District No. 4
Laconia (5)
Judith Reever (D)
Donald H. Flanders (R)
Beth Arsenault (D)
Richard Stuart (D)
John Veazey (R)

District No. 5
Alton, Barnstead, Belmont, Gilford (7)
Elaine Swinford (R) – Center Barnstead
Laurie J. Boyce (R) - Alton
Peter Bolster (R) - Alton
Alida I. Millham (R) - Gilford
James P. Pilliod (R) - Belmont
William Johnson (D) – Gilford
Jeffrey St. Cyr (R) - Alton

District No. 6
Gilmanton (1)
David H. Russell (R) – Gilmanton Iron Works

Executive Committee
Stephen Nedeau – Alida Millham
David Russell – Donald Flanders
Jim Pilliod – Elizabeth Merry – Beth Arsenault

Belknap County Directory

Board of Commissioners 527-5400
Chairman: Christopher D. Boothby, 34 County Drive,
Laconia, NH 03246 **Fax:** 527-5409
Vice Chairman: Edward D. Philpot, 34 County Drive, Laconia, NH 03246
Clerk: Richard W. Long, 34 County Drive, Laconia, NH 03246

Treasurer 527-5400
Michael G. Muzzey, 34 County Drive, Laconia, NH 03246 **Fax:** 527-5409

County Administrator 527-5400
Debra A. Shackett, 34 County Drive, Laconia, NH 03246 **Fax:** 527-5409

County Attorney 527-5440
James Carroll, 64 Court Street, Laconia, NH 03246 **Fax:** 527-5449

Registrar of Deeds 527-5420
Barbara Luther, 64 Court Street, Laconia, NH 03246 **Fax:** 527-5429

Sheriff 527-5454
Craig Wiggin, 42 County Drive, Laconia, NH 03246 **Fax:** 527-5469

Corrections Superintendent 527-5480
Richard A. Grenier, 76 County Drive, Laconia, NH 03246 **Fax:** 527-5489

Youth Services Director 527-5493
Brian J. Loanes, 64 Court Street, Laconia, NH 03246 **Fax:** 527-5498

Director of Maintenance 527-5490
Harold Powell, 64 Court Street, Laconia, NH 03246 **Fax:** 527-5449

Nursing Home Administrator 527-5410
Courtney Marshall, 30 County Drive, Laconia, NH 03246 **Fax:** 527-5419

Human Resources Director 527-5400
Norman C. O'Neil, 34 County Drive, Laconia, NH 03246 **Fax:** 527-5409

UNH Cooperative Extension Administrator 527-5475
Sue Cagle, 36 County Drive, Laconia, NH 03246 **Fax:** 527-5477

Conservation District Director 527-5880
Lisa Morin, 719 North Main Street, Room #203, Laconia, NH 03246 **Fax:** 528-8783

Economic Development Council Executive Director 524-3057
Jennifer Boulanger, Southern Univ. Bldg., 2 Airport Road, Gilford, NH 03249
Fax: 524-0314

Report of the Commissioners for 2009

During 2009, many new and exciting changes took place in Belknap County. The first big change came in welcoming our new Commissioner, Edward Philpot of Laconia. Commissioner Philpot was elected by the people in November of 2008 to represent the taxpayers in District One. Commissioner Philpot took the oath of public office and was sworn in at the Belknap County Superior Court on January 7, 2009. Commissioner Philpot brings a high level of knowledge and experience that has contributed in playing a critical role in improving and implementing changes for Belknap County. We would be remiss in not mentioning the fact that he is also the first Democratic Commissioner that has served the Belknap County Board of Commissioners since as far back as we could research. Part of a new era in our history, demonstrating that we are all here to do the people's work together!

As part of the ever changing economic times, we all look for more efficiency in the way we do our day to day business. One of the changes that the County made was to partner with Primex Risk Management to move the county employees' health insurance coverage to Harvard Pilgrim as of May 1, 2009. This was a smooth transition and our employees have been very satisfied with the change. Primex has been a vital partner to Belknap County, also providing property and liability insurance along with workers compensation coverage for the County. Their resources are utilized by many county employees for training or other support services.

One of the most notable projects that the Board undertook in 2009 was strategic planning and goal setting. The Commissioners and the County Administrator met for a series of facilitated work sessions to compare personality assessments, management styles and priorities. A list of goals was established with a clear plan of action for each. One of our primary goals was our series of "County Conversations". It was our intention to visit each and every town and the city within Belknap County. We met with each Governing Body and had invaluable discussions in an effort to reach out, explain what county government was all about and to ask for feedback on the future role of county government. There were many common themes that emerged as we traveled through the county; regionalization of services, opportunities for cooperative purchasing and a general request for leadership at the county level. The process concluded with a community forum,

where we reviewed the information gathered and discussed approaches for continued brain storming. We considered this project a great success and truly valued the opportunity for direct, open interaction as well as the feedback received.

A direct result of the concluding forum was the creation of an Administrative Group headed by our County Administrator, Debra Shackett. This group of professionals is made up of the Administrators and Managers from each of the municipalities. They meet monthly to discuss opportunities to improve efficiency and share information. They have had ongoing discussions that revolve around combining services, bidding together to save on bulk costs, budgeting issues and needs at every level. This is an ongoing process and also part of our strategic planning goals.

The Commissioners are looking long and hard into our personnel policies and procedures. The need for a Human Resources Director had been at the fore front of our agenda and we are happy to announce that in September of 2009, Mr. Norman O'Neil was hired to fill this vital and much needed role. Mr. O'Neil brings years of experience, not only in the human resources profession, but specifically in the public sector. Mr. O'Neil has jumped right into a number of projects and has already made contributions to the County.

We saw the retirement of one of our longest standing Belknap County employees, Superintendent of the Department of Corrections, Richard Grenier. Mr. Grenier started working for Belknap County in 1977. In his tenure, he worked his way through the ranks starting as a Correctional Officer, Sergeant, Lieutenant, and ultimately, Superintendent. He can certainly say he worked his way to the top in the past 32 plus years! Superintendent Grenier started a number of new and existing programs at the jail. One was the farm program, which was not only a huge success among the inmates providing them with physical labor, etc., but it also provided food to many of the local pantries and to our own County Nursing Home. Superintendent Grenier also saw through the implementation of the Electronic Monitoring Program. This program has been a huge success and ultimately saved the tax payers thousands of dollars while offering the opportunity for inmates that have earned the chance to transition into civilian life in a proactive way. We wish Mr. Grenier well and thank him for his years of loyal and dedicated service to the citizen's of Belknap County.

With the intention of limiting the services paid for by County taxes to those required by New Hampshire State Statue, the Commissioners reevaluated the budgetary funding requests. As all departments were asked to review their procedures for gained efficiencies, the Commission began to review very closely our role

in providing funding for outside agencies. Two significant changes culminated from this process; The Youth Services Bureau merged with the existing Juvenile Restorative Justice Department to create a new county department known as Belknap County Youth Services. This has resulted in significant cost savings as well as a streamlined approach to providing youth services. Secondly, the Lakes Region United Way hired Alan Robichaud, who had been serving as the Executive Director of the Citizens Council on Children and Families. This will allow Mr. Robichaud to continue his valuable work in the community. The Commissioners were impressed with the work of Mr. Robichaud over the years and commended him for his hard work, dedication and commitment to the families in Belknap County. Mr. Robichaud handled his difficult change with dignity, professionalism and a positive attitude. That legacy and his important work will now continue on with Mr. Robichaud through the United Way.

The County is undergoing a full facilities analysis that started in 2009 and is taking us into 2010. Pre-planning, analysis, data and information gathering has been the basis of work that has been done as of this report date. This is indeed a large undertaking for the County and a very necessary one. Architects are studying everything from work space, to building structure, to department set ups, heating, cooling, parking, everything that affects our day to day facilities and our staff. This is an exciting undertaking to develop a master plan to guide us for many years into the future.

The Commissioners would like to thank the Department Heads and all County employees for rising to the challenges that we face on a daily basis, especially in these tough economic times, for striving to work more efficiently and for handling themselves with professionalism and integrity. Our Belknap County team is committed, dedicated and professional and we are proud of them. We wish to acknowledge the County Delegation members and thank them for their ongoing support. Our partnership has grown during the County Conservations project and we look forward to additional opportunities to work together. We appreciate the opportunity to serve the citizens of Belknap County.

Belknap County Board of Commissioners:
Christopher Boothby, Chairman
Edward Philpot, Vice Chairman
Richard Long, Clerk

MS-42

STATEMENT OF COUNTY APPROPRIATIONS
AND
REVENUE AS VOTED

For: Belknap County

DATE OF CONVENTION: 10/5/2009 Fiscal Year Ending: 12/31/2009

Mailing Address: 34 County Dr, Laconia NH 03246

Phone #: 527-5400 Fax #: 527-5409 E-Mail: dshackett@belknapcounty.org

Prepared by: Debra Shackett, County Administrator

This form is also to be used to report the voted appropriations, as required under RSA 24:24, to the Secretary of State and to the Commissioner of the Department of Revenue Administration. It is due by September 1 per RSA 21-J:34.

CERTIFICATE OF VOTE

This is to certify that the appropriations entered on this form are those voted by the county convention.

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined the information contained in this form and to the best of my belief it is true, correct and complete.

Chairperson

Clerk of County Convention

This form is available on our website: www.nh.gov/revenue

FOR DRA USE ONLY

NH DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE ADMINISTRATION
MUNICIPAL SERVICES DIVISION
P.O. BOX 487, CONCORD, NH 03302-0487
(603)271-3397

MS-42
Rev. 05/09

MS-42 Budget - County of Belknap FY 2009

1	2	3	4
Acct.#	APPROPRIATIONS	Appropriations as Voted	DRA USE
	GENERAL GOVERNMENT	xxxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxxx
4110	County Convention Costs	8,000.00	
4120	Judicial		
4122	Jury Costs		
4123	County Attorney's Office	568,020.00	
4124	Victim Witness Advocacy Program		
4130	Executive	225,965.00	
4150	Financial Administration	394,216.00	
4151	Treasurer		
4153	Other Legal Costs		
4155	Personnel Administration		
4191	Planning and Zoning for Unine.Places		
4192	Medical Examiner	18,000.00	
4193	Register of Deeds	515,222.00	
4194	Maintenance of Government Bldg.	578,120.00	
	Other (specify)	110,000.00	
	PUBLIC SAFETY	xxxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxxx
4211	Sheriff's Department	1,957,942.50	
4212	Custody of Prisoners		
4214	Sheriff's Support Services		
4219	Other Public Safety	478,356.00	
	CORRECTIONS	xxxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxxx
4230	Corrections	3,258,684.00	
4235	Adult Probation and Parole		
4300	County Farm Expense		
	COUNTY NURSING HOME	xxxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxxx
4411	Administration	11,324,403.00	
4412	Operating Expense		
4439	Other Health		

MS-42 **Budget - County of** Belknap **FY** 2009

1	2	3	4
Acct.#	APPROPRIATIONS	Appropriations as Voted	DRA USE
	HUMAN SERVICES	**XXXXXXXXX**	**XXXXXXXXX**
4442	Direct Assistance	5,304,229.00	
4443	Board and Care of Children		
4446	Diversion Program	228,760.00	
4447	Special Outside Services	84,905.00	
	Other (Specify)	130,055.00	
	COOPERATIVE EXTENSION	**XXXXXXXXX**	**XXXXXXXXX**
4611	Administration	143,898.00	
4619	Other Conservation	95,159.00	
4650	Economic Development	75,000.00	
	DEBT SERVICE	**XXXXXXXXX**	**XXXXXXXXX**
4711	Principal Long-Term Bonds/Notes	123,000.00	
4721	Interest Long-Term Bonds/Notes	165,576.00	
	Other (Specify)	120,325.00	
	INTERGOVERNMENTAL TRANSFERS	**XXXXXXXXX**	**XXXXXXXXX**
4800	Intergovernmental Transfers	3,075,354.00	
	CAPITAL OUTLAY	**XXXXXXXXX**	**XXXXXXXXX**
4901	Land and Improvements		
4902	Machinery		
4903	Buildings		
4904	Improvements Other than Bldg.		
	INTERFUND OPERATING TRANSFERS	**XXXXXXXXX**	**XXXXXXXXX**
4912	To Special Revenue Fund		
4913	To Capital Projects Fund		
4914	To Proprietary Funds		
4915	To Capital Reserve Funds		
4916	To Fiduciary Funds		
	TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS	28,983,189.50	

MS-42 Budget - County of Belknap FY 2009

1 Acct.#	2 SOURCES OF REVENUES	3 Estimated Revenue Ensuing Fiscal Year
	ASSESSMENTS/TAXES	xxxxxxxxx
3110	Property Taxes Levied for Unincorporated Places	
3120	Land Use Change Taxes for Unincorporated Places	
3180	Resident Taxes for Unincorporated Places	
3185	Yield Taxes for Unincorporated Places	
3186	Payments in Lieu of Taxes for Unincorporated Places	
3187	Payments in Lieu of Taxes	
3189	Other Taxes	
3191	Penalties on Delinquent Municipal Assessments	
3200	Licenses, Permits, and Fees	
		xxxxxxxxx
3319	REVENUE FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	
	REVENUE FROM THE STATE OF NH	xxxxxxxxx
3351	Shared Revenue for Unincorporated Places	
3352	Incentive Funds	190,802.00
3354	Water Pollution Grants	
3355	Housing and Community Development	
3356	State & Fed. Forest Land Reim. in Unincorporated Places	
3359	Other (Specify)	88,978.00
3379	INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUES	
	REVENUES FROM CHARGES FOR SERVICES	xxxxxxxxx
3401	Sheriff's Department	360,318.50
3402	Register of Deeds	885,000.00
3403	County Corrections	84,450.00
3404	County Nursing Homes	11,324,403.00
3405	County Farm	
3407	Maintenance Department	
3409	Other (Specify)	128,949.00
	REVENUE FROM MISCELLANEOUS SOURCES	xxxxxxxxx
3501	Sale of County Property	
3502	Interest on Investments	67,000.00
3503	Rents of Property	259,229.00
3508	Contributions and Donations	150,000.00
350_	Other (Specify)	
350_	Other (Specify)	

MS-42

Budget - County of Belknap FY 2009

1	2	5
Acct.#	SOURCES OF REVENUES	Estimated Revenue Ensuing Fiscal Year
	OTHER FINANCIAL SOURCES	xxxxxxxxx
3912	Transfer from Special Revenue Funds	
3913	Transfer from Capital Projects Funds	
3914	Transfer from Proprietary Funds	
3915	Transfer from Capital Reserve Funds	
3916	Transfer from Trust and Agency Funds	
3934	Proceeds from Long-Term Notes/Bonds	
	ESTIMATED REVENUE SUBTOTAL	
	FUND BALANCE TO REDUCE TAX RATE	1,050,000.00
	TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUES	14,589,129.50

BUDGET SUMMARY

Total Voted Appropriations	28,983,189.50
Total Revenues	14,589,129.50
Amount Certified to be Raised by Taxes	14,394,060.00

VACHON CLUKAY
& COMPANY PC

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
45 Market Street • Manchester, New Hampshire 03101
(603) 622-7070 • Fax: (603) 622-1452 • www.vccepas.com

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Commissioners
County of Belknap, New Hampshire

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the discretely presented component unit, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the County of Belknap, New Hampshire (the County) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2008, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the County's management. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the discretely presented component unit, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the County of Belknap, New Hampshire as of December 31, 2008, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows, where applicable, thereof for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The management's discussion and analysis and the budgetary comparison information on pages i-ix and 28-29, respectively, are not a required part of the basic financial statements but are supplementary information required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the County of Belknap, New Hampshire's basic financial statements. The combining nonmajor fund and fiduciary fund financial statements are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. The combining nonmajor fund and fiduciary fund financial statements have been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, are fairly stated in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Vachon, Clukay & Co. PC

August 26, 2009

EXHIBIT C
COUNTY OF BELKNAP, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Balance Sheet
Governmental Funds
December 31, 2008

	General Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 3,195,661	$ 3,383	$ 3,199,044
Investments	53,415		53,415
Accounts receivable, net	157,731		157,731
Due from other funds	2,779,613		2,779,613
Advance to component unit	96,210		96,210
Restricted cash and investments	63,394		63,394
Total Assets	$ 6,346,024	$ 3,383	$ 6,349,407
LIABILITIES			
Accounts payable	$ 1,190,094		$ 1,190,094
Accrued expenses	297,833		297,833
Deferred revenue	50,972		50,972
Due to other governments	704,588		704,588
Due to other funds	1,414	$ 64	1,478
Payable from restricted assets	63,394		63,394
Total Liabilities	2,308,295	64	2,308,359
FUND BALANCES			
Unreserved, reported in:			
General fund	4,037,729		4,037,729
Special revenue funds		3,319	3,319
Total Fund Balances	4,037,729	3,319	4,041,048
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	$ 6,346,024	$ 3,383	

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net assets are different because:	
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the funds	3,981,331
Revenues are recognized on an accrual basis in the statement of net assets, not the modified accrual basis	25,000
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds. Long-term liabilities at year end consist of:	
Bonds payable	(1,205,000)
Other long-term obligations, net of advance	(129,500)
Accrued interest on long-term obligations	(16,319)
Compensated absences	(224,660)
Net assets of governmental activities	$ 6,471,900

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

SCHEDULE 1

COUNTY OF BELKNAP, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance

Budget and Actual (Budgetary Basis) - General Fund

For the Year Ended December 31, 2008

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual Amounts	Variance with Final Budget - Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Original	Final		
Revenues:				
Taxes	$ 14,271,909	$ 14,271,909	$ 14,271,909	$ -
Intergovernmental	299,583	299,583	262,807	(36,776)
Charges for services	1,368,728	1,368,728	1,299,724	(69,004)
Interest income	100,000	100,000	47,830	(52,170)
Miscellaneous	438,111	438,111	468,309	30,198
Total Revenues	16,478,331	16,478,331	16,350,579	(127,752)
Expenditures:				
Current:				
General government	2,553,898	2,553,898	2,355,664	198,234
Public safety	5,765,799	5,765,799	5,696,699	69,100
Health and welfare	5,780,782	5,780,782	5,580,284	200,498
Education and Social Service Agencies	326,214	326,214	319,995	6,219
Debt service:				
Principal retirement	289,600	289,600	289,600	-
Interest and fiscal charges	177,924	177,924	202,092	(24,168)
Total Expenditures	14,894,217	14,894,217	14,444,334	449,883
Excess revenues over expenditures	1,584,114	1,584,114	1,906,245	322,131
Other financing sources (uses):				
Transfers in	150,000	150,000	318,487	168,487
Transfers out	(3,734,114)	(3,734,114)	(2,948,518)	785,596
Total other financing sources (uses)	(3,584,114)	(3,584,114)	(2,630,031)	954,083
Net change in fund balance	(2,000,000)	(2,000,000)	(723,786)	1,276,214
Fund balance at beginning of year - Budgetary Basis, as restated	4,761,515	4,761,515	4,761,515	-
Fund balance at end of year - Budgetary Basis	$ 2,761,515	$ 2,761,515	$ 4,037,729	$ 1,276,214

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information

Report of the Belknap County Attorney

To the Honorable Commissioners, the Legislative Delegation of Belknap County and the Taxpayers of Belknap County:

It continues to be an incredible honor to serve the citizens in Belknap County. The citizens have three diligent and effective attorneys representing the citizens of Belknap County and the State of New Hampshire.

The citizens of Belknap County should feel well protected by the men and women of law enforcement agencies of the different communities, as well as the men and women of the Belknap County Sheriff's Department, the New Hampshire State Police, the New Hampshire Marine Patrol, and the New Hampshire Fish and Game Officers. These agencies worked in unison with the County Attorney's Office to provide protection, intervention, and prevention powers so that the communities of the county retain their safety and welfare.

Although the County of Belknap is not immune to the dangers of violent crime and substance abuse fueled by drug dealing, the men and women of Belknap County in law enforcement are fighting the good fight with professionalism, proficiency, and a high-level of competence.

The Belknap County Attorney's Office offers 24/7 response to the needs of area agencies, from advise on police procedures in solving crimes, support in prosecuting not only cases that will be in the County Attorney's office, but also to support those agencies at the District Court level, and dealing with a plethora of other civil and criminal issues.

The Belknap County Attorney's Office provided legal support to the Belknap County Legislative Delegation in providing legal advise and legal responses to pending civil litigation involving allegations made adversely to the Delegation over the approval of and expenditure of grant monies.

For the year, 2009, the County Attorney and two assistant County Attorneys served the people of Belknap. During the year 2009, the office presented 575 Indictments to Grand Juries sitting every six weeks. That presentation occurred after the Office reviewed approximately 684 felony referrals from local law enforcement agencies. This high number of indictments established the most docketed cases in the Court's recent memory.

The Grand Jury process is used primarily for the review of indictments by a group of peers, citizens of the County, to insure that there is probable cause to implement the criminal process against an individual in the Superior Court. The indictment, itself, is only the mechanism to implement the process.

Although the Grand Jury process is primarily utilized for the purposes of that above review, the process is also utilized to review and to assist investigations, which may be ongoing. The County Attorney's office did utilize that investigative authority during the year 2009.

The Office returned two more successful prosecutions for Sale of a Narcotic Drug with Death Resulting. The case involved two defendants and resulted in lengthy prison terms for the two defendants. These cases are tragic and challenging legally. The cases' resolutions spoke firmly about the County's and the communities' concerns about drug abuse and, particularly, illegal methadone usage. The prosecution's cases were greatly aided by the County's alliance with local jurisdictions in the Methadone Task Force.

The County Attorney's Office is constantly available to the State Medical Examiners for consults on untimely deaths. The County Attorney was consulted directly on 62 occasions. Of central issue in these notices, is whether or not there is suspicion surrounding the passing of an individual. An extraordinary spike has been observed in the untimely deaths of young people in our communities. Many of these passings were causally related to drug overdoses. There has been a need to amend our investigative approaches to these untimely deaths from the outset. What had previously been viewed as plainly untimely, the scenes now may, in deed, be crime scenes and need to be preserved for continued investigation.

The Office also handled 109 Probation Violations. Although the Probation Officers bring the violations, the Office represents the Probation Officers in the litigation. The foundations of the violations are generated by the actions of defendants who have been placed on Probation following the dispositions of their cases in court. There is a wide range of events which may cause these violations to be presented to the Court - further criminal behaviors by the Defendant, failures of the Defendants to maintain their rehabilitative efforts, etc.

The Office handled 14 misdemeanor appeals. The criminal justice system in New Hampshire accords a defendant an opportunity to a jury trial upon a finding of guilty in the District Court as a result of a bench trial.

The Belknap County's victim/witness coordinator continues to work with victims and witnesses from pre-indictment stages of a case, through trial and beyond for each of our cases. The coordinator works directly with the prosecution team as the trial proceeds and maintains the highest level of communication with victims and witnesses. Long after the trials have ended, the coordinator continues to monitor the parole processes of defendants and notices the defendant's victims of such developments. The coordinator is also critical to the maintaining accurate restitution figures and communicating with probation and parole to insure the flow of restitution.

It has been the County Attorney's desire to maintain our attorneys' connection with the community. The Victim/Witness advocate continues to devote volunteer time with the Child Advocacy Center at the Community Action Program building on Route 106 in Laconia. The Center offers a unified and coordinated interview process of victims without the former multiple interviews that befell the investigative process. The present interview system is a team approach with members of law enforcement investigative teams, members of the NH Division of Children, Youth and Families, and members of the prosecution team at the County Attorney's office. Assistant County Attorney McWhirk serves on the Board of Directors for the Center.

In this community effort, Assistant County Attorney Barnes dedicates hours to the local Domestic Violence Prevention Council in addressing issues, which arise systemically and institutionally.

Further, the County Attorney continues his dedication to the youth needs of the region with a present focus at creating a region wide model of providing pre-trial services. He is also serving upon a committee, which is addressing the question of a need for additional mental health considerations for our citizens whose behaviors become troubling.

The County Attorney, upon entering office, wrote the Commissioner of the Department of Corrections requesting consideration of the alternative disposition process utilized in many counties - The Academy Program. This disposition worked intensively with Defendants for nearly 18 months to create changes in behavioral decision-making resulting in their return to the communities as a contributing citizen.

This program has been discontinued by the Department of Corrections due to budget concerns at the State level. Additionally, the Lakes Region Facility has been closed with additional individuals placed on parole status with the same number of parole/probation officers. The DOC has also eliminated the case technicians who have been generally charged with supervising pretrial services and restitution monitoring.

In answer to these losses and mindful of its responsibilities to victims of crime, the County Attorney's Office has assumed responsibilities which have not ordinarily been included in their responsibilities such as monitoring compliance with restitution payments and bail supervision.

The County Attorney is attempting to implement a cost effective transition program between the District and Superior courts which will address through sanctions, the implementation of rehabilitative efforts by the Defendant to become employed full-time, deal with substance abuse issues and to continue or complete their educations so that their competencies for future success can be raised.

The Office also works closed with Community Action Program to give volunteer opportunities to their clients. The County Attorney has utilized a college intern over the past year to introduce him to the duties of the office. This soon to be attorney has given great support to the office's team.

The Office continues to have an open door policy for inquiries from the citizens of Belknap County on any number of issues. The Office continues to commit itself to successful prosecution, but also successful change in the lives of Defendants to return them to the communities to contribute in the same fashion as each one of our citizens do on a regular basis.

Respectfully Submitted,
James M. Carroll, IV

Department of Corrections
January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009

To the Honorable Commissioners of Belknap County,

The year 2009 will be remembered by Correctional Staff as a year of extremes. At times the facility was near capacity followed by lower populated months that reminded us of the mid 1990's. The daily inmate population ranged from a high of 96 in July to a low of 60 in mid December. Protective Custody admissions declined to 774 compared to 896 in 2008. This drop seems to follow recent years of steady decline in Protective Custody bookings in spite of last years spike in intoxications. The decline in Bike Week attendance and lower tourist numbers in the state can be attributed to the steady decline booking numbers.

Overcrowding in general population housing areas has shown improvement over last year. The decline in weekender sentences and special needs inmates eased housing concerns. This decline in population should allow maintenance time for much need painting and minor repairs to unoccupied units. In December 2009 work released inmates were moved from the Gym back to the House of Corrections. This opened the gym for daily exercise for the entire inmate population. Daily exercise lowers inmate stress and makes out daily population happier and more manageable.

The Farm Program

The inmate Farm Program enjoyed another successful season despite another rain soaked spring. Officer Levasseur planted crops on higher ground and worked diligently using inmate labor in halting last summers blight. The farm stand was once again well received by the general public with many new people visiting the stand this year. This year $2484.33 of produce was sold to the general public. More importantly another 1500 pounds of produce was donated to the St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry, the Laconia Senior Center and the Belknap County Nursing Home.

Maintenance

General maintenance continued in 2009 with most of the attention focused on existing problem areas. The worn carpet in the public lobby area was replaced. The skylights in the jail corridors were sealed and the walls were repaired using inmate labor. Several electrical problems from the electrical feed to the greenhouse

to the replacement of faulty exhaust fans have been repaired and are now compliant with local codes. Jail showers have been updated dated and the new designs should outlast the tile or masonry previously used in units. Public safety signs have been installed on the grounds. The signs were made by the State Prison Sign Shop program. Thanks to the efforts of Harold Powell and Gary Minery a new training system is now in place for inmates working with power equipment and tools. Inmates are properly trained to safely use all county equipment required for their assigned jobs. Training records will be kept in each inmates booking file.

Community Corrections and Work Release

The Community Corrections Program has continued to improve under the supervision of Officer Don Lemay. Officer Lemay's effort and success in finding employment for sentenced inmates during times of high unemployment deserves praise. A total of 30 inmates were approved and found employment while incarcerated. Of the 30 inmates approved for work release 23 eventually were approved for electronic monitoring. The work release program generated $16,379.30 in revenue from room and board charges. The Bracelet Monitoring program generated and additional $3718.86 in revenue from monitoring fees. Once again this year inmates where place on electronic monitoring for medical conditions saving the county over $10,000.00 on medical expenses. Additional money was saved in food, clothing, housing a medical expenses for every inmate on Bracelet Monitoring.

Programs

Inmate Programs 01/01/09 thru 12/31/09 as reported by Programs Director Jan Best

Substance Abuse Programming

-Alcoholics Anonymous

147 inmates attended in 2009

-Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment Program (ADAPT)

(The grant's criteria allows only incarcerated inmates who will be able to complete the program to participate.)

42 inmates have participated

-Assisting inmates in the process of being interviewed, accepted and admitted to long/short term residential and/or out-patient treatment facilities

29 inmates were assisted in 2009

GED Program

*The state is no longer funding tutorial services for educationally disabled inmates who are under the age of twenty-one. Local school districts are once again responsible for providing tutors for their coded students when these students are incarcerated.

16 inmates participated
6 inmates have earned high school equivalency certificates
0 inmates have tested and failed to earn certificates
10 inmates were released or transferred, were non compliant, or stopped participating
During the preparation phase
1 inmate was involved in high school credit recovery (tutor provided by the district)
12 inmates are currently preparing for testing

Supplemental Programming

13 inmates participated in Parenting Skills
9 inmates participated in Food, Nutrition and Fitness
12 inmates participated in Parenting Under Difficult Circumstances

Belknap County Department of Correction
Booking Data 2009

January 1, 2009 thru December 31, 2009

Total Admissions – 1970

- New Arrests (Pre-Trial) – 856
  - Felonies- 291
  - Misdemeanors – 370
  - Civil Cases – 63
  - Probation Violations – 79
  - Parole Violation – 41
  - Overnight Holds – 12

- Sentenced Admissions – 340
  - Felonies – 148
  - Misdemeanors
  - Probation Violation

- Protective Custody Admissions- 774
- Male admissions – 1511
- Female admissions- 459

Booking Ages by Percentile2009

Under 18:	19 admissions 0.97%
18 – 24:	442 admissions 22.59%
25 – 34:	546 admissions 27.90%
35 – 44:	425 admissions 21.72%
45 – 54:	339 admissions 17.32%
55+:	84 admissions 4.29%

Additional Statistics

Average length of stay per sentenced inmates: 203 days
Average length of stay (female offenders): 10.54 days
Average length of stay (male offenders): 15.32 days
June was the month with the most activity: 235 new admissions, 224 releases

I would like to thank all of the employees of the Belknap County Department of Corrections for another year of outstanding service. It is your pride in the department and your attention to details that make the Belknap County Department of Corrections a safe environment for staff, inmates, visitors and guests.

I would also like thank all who assisted me while working as Interim Superintendent, your support was needed and appreciated.

David A. Berry Jr.
Lieutenant

Report of the Nursing Home

To the Honorable Commissioners of Belknap County:
Belknap County Nursing Home tightened its belt in 2009 as the general economy caused a strain on the residents of Belknap County and the Nation as a whole. With caution and moderation in mind we have held the fiscal line by consolidating positions, implementing a hiring freeze, and utilizing digital communications. Being as committed to the taxpayers of Belknap County as we are to our residents, we have adopted a philosophy of doing more with less.

The management team remained in place and very low turnover rates in the employee group contributed to overall stability of the nursing home workforce which translates to better resident care. Essentially only two positions in the nursing department remained unfilled at year end. One of our LPNs, Shelley Richardson, is attending the RN Nursing program at Lakes Region Community College. She will be graduating in May of 2010 and be returning to full duty at that time. It is important to note that Belknap County Nursing Home did not use outside or contract agency staffing at any time in 2009. A new MDS Coordinator, Carol Tashereau, RN, was hired in May. The accuracy and efficacy of her work has contributed to a significant increase in our case mix index, a measure of resident acuity. This increase in CMI mitigated the impact of a Medicaid rate cut that takes effect January 1, 2010.

The annual State and Licensing Survey began and ended the week of February 10, 2009. The facility received four health care deficiencies of relatively minor scope and severity. Also the Life Safety Survey conducted at the same time by a new State inspector found relatively minor deficiencies, which were corrected quickly. Because of the low level of the deficiencies and ability of BCNH staff to document corrections to deficiencies via fax and Email, an onsite follow-up survey was not required in 2009. There were no complaint survey investigations conducted at Belknap County Nursing Home in 2009. BCNH also received a four out of five star quality rating on the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services Nursing Home Compare website, placing BCNH above average for health inspection results, staffing, and quality indicators compared with all other nursing homes in the United States.

Resident census remained high at 99% occupancy throughout 2009. Direct care and billing staff became more comfortable with the skilled Medicare A process.

Deb Laflamme and I submitted our first Medicare Cost Report saving the County outside accounting fees. There continues to be a waiting list for admission to BCNH.

BCNH transferred a Housekeeping position to the Dietary Department dish room in order to better monitor the inmate workers from the Department of Corrections. A joint effort with DOC using inmate labor to build an outdoor gazebo for residents and family saved the County approximately half the costs of construction. The gazebo was available for the 2009 summer season and will have many years of maintenance free useful life.

The State Department of Labor made an unannounced inspection visit in March of 2009 with no citations. The inspector recommended we update the current Safety Policy Manual, which the nursing home Risk Management Committee completed in April.

The nursing home ended the year under budget primarily due to lower costs for utilities, employee health insurance, and workers' compensation. The switch to Primex and Harvard Pilgrim in 2009 gave the nursing home employee group and the County savings for essentially equivalent coverage. Workers compensation rates were lower due to an improved safety experience ratio and lower claims paid in prior years. Key management employees continue to meet regularly with representatives from Primex to discuss risk management strategies and the overall safety of our employees.

Due to the unexpected receipt of ARRA (stimulus) funds in 2009, the main parking lot was reconstructed in November. Major cracks and frost heaves during the winter months in prior years created safety issues for vehicles and pedestrians. Pam Johnson, a 30 year restorative aide, received the New Hampshire Association of Counties Nursing Home Employee of the Year Award at the NHAC annual awards banquet at the Mt. Washington Hotel in October. Cindy Daigneault, beautician, received the Gordon Bartlett Humanitarian Award at the annual employee Christmas luncheon.

BCNH's eldest resident, Virginia White, celebrated her 100th birthday and received a proclamation from the Mayor, which was presented in the company of the Commissioners, County Administrator, and dozens of family, friends, staff and peers.

With an eye toward the future an Environmental Improvement Committee was formed consisting of administrative personnel, resident council members, and family council members. This committee is charged with the task of improving the overall atmosphere, look, and feel of the nursing home to achieve a homier, more comfortable and more welcoming environment for our residents.

In order to keep up with the times, BCNH has initiated the process of a major overhaul of the website and created specific e-mail groups to better serve the families and friends of BCNH in a more timely and efficient manner. BCNH introduced its quarterly News letter, the BCNH Beacon, in April 2009 which is distributed to families and made available to residents, staff and the general public. BCNH participated in several health and wellness conferences and provided area residents and the public with information about our long term healthcare and rehabilitation services.

In 2010, Belknap County Nursing Home will continue to improve the quality resident care in a supportive and safe working environment through a cost conscious operation that spends County taxpayer dollars wisely.

Respectfully submitted,
Courtney A. Marshall, NHA

Registry of Deeds

To the Honorable Commissioners of Belknap County:

Revenue sources:	
4% Commission and Recording:	$ 822,877.00
Copies: Internet & In office	$136,705.00
Surcharge:	$ 31,738.00
LCHIP 4% Commission (Land and Community Heritage Investment Program)	$10,673.00
TOTAL:	**$1,001,993.00**

During 2009 we recorded 16,988 documents, an increase of 1,154 documents over 2008. We recorded 239 foreclosures; in 2008 we recorded 232 foreclosures.

Our Registry now has 630 internet accounts; revenue from these accounts totaled $124,600.00. We continue to update our technology and offer the newest research tools available.

In 2010 we anticipate being able to offer a Property Fraud Alert function - at no additional cost to the County. This new function would allow the Registry to be pro-active in the prevention of property fraud by notifying homeowners of documents recorded regarding their property via email or a phone call.

We are beginning 2010 with an updated website at: www.nhdeeds.com. Our technical advisors/vendors at Connor & Connor (now owned by Fidlar Technologies) worked with us to provide a professional, colorful and updated site.....we are very pleased with the results. Visit our user friendly site - and call our office if you have any questions. You are also able to reach us through a link at the Belknap County website.

My sincere appreciation to the members of the Belknap County Convention as well as the Board of Commissioners for their continued support of the Registry and its staff.

Our Registry continues to operate with 5 full-time and 1 part-time staff members. We happily enjoy the reputation as the best Registry of Deeds in the state... due,

of course, to the dedicated staff: Judy McGrath, June Martel, Carol Morin, Sue Gagne and Saralee Wheeler. The success of our office is fostered by the sense of family and unqualified support of each other.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara R. Luther
Registrar

Belknap County Sheriff's Department
2009 County Report

Craig Wiggin – Sheriff
Lieutenant Christopher Cost – Operations Commander
Sergeant Thomas Alden – Civil Division Supervisor
Sergeant William Robarge – Criminal Division Supervisor
Sergeant Donald Belyea – Court Security Supervisor
Suzanne Hankard – Communications Director

"A tradition of excellence in County law enforcement for over a century."

By state law, the Sheriff's Department is a full-service law enforcement agency like any other in New Hampshire. However, the Office of the Sheriff is responsible for additional duties that are unique to the Sheriff and his Deputies. The members of the Belknap County Sheriff's Department carry out these duties in a highly professional and efficient manner. I am pleased to present this summary of the department's work during the past year.

CIVIL PROCESS

Pursuant to New Hampshire RSA 104, the Sheriff is responsible for service and execution of all writs and precepts within the County. The type of process ranges from subpoenas to the execution of a Sheriff's Sale on real estate or physical property. Standard fees for service and related mileage are also prescribed by statute and are charged to the requestor.

CIVIL DOCUMENTS SERVED:	**4,130**
FEES COLLECTED/RETURNED TO THE COUNTY:	**$105,073.25**
COLLECTIONS OUTSTANDING	**$ 5,132.05**

PRISONER TRANSPORTS

The department is responsible for the transportation of persons incarcerated anywhere in the state and beyond, who are ordered to appear in a court of jurisdiction within the county. The Sheriff is also required to transport persons to NH Hospital or another appropriate facility pursuant to any Involuntary Emergency Admission proceedings. We also transport defendants to courts at the request of local police agencies. This service reduces the need for the local agency to tie up a vehicle and personnel for court appearances of defendants housed at the Belknap County Jail.

TOTAL TRANSPORTS: **2,220**

Second Annual Belknap County Public Safety Day at Meadowbrook U.S. Cellular Pavilion, October 2009

CRIMINAL AND CIVIL ARRESTS

As prescribed by RSA 104, the Sheriff is required to execute orders of the Courts, which include civil, criminal, and contempt orders of arrest. The Sheriff is required to take such persons into custody and bring them before the Court. Deputies locate and arrest individuals wanted on contempt orders, criminal arrest war

rants, bench warrants issued by the District and Superior Courts, and civil arrest warrants. 397 arrests were processed in 2009.

OUT OF STATE EXTRADITIONS/RENDITIONS

The Department's Warrants Officer coordinates the extradition of defendants that have fled the jurisdiction of the state and have failed to appear on charges that involve serious criminal offenses within Belknap County. Extraditions are pursued under the authority of the County Attorney and the NH Attorney General's Office when a Governor's Warrant is required.

TOTAL EXTRADITIONS:	**40**

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

The Criminal Division conducts investigations throughout the County, often providing technical or specialized assistance to smaller departments. Detectives regularly work in conjunction with other county, state, local, and federal law enforcement agencies on cases that involve multiple jurisdictions. The Criminal Division provides Forensic Polygraph services as well as referrals from across the County involving bad checks.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS OPENED	**101**
BAD CHECK CASES INVESTIGATED:	**30**
RESTITUTION RETURNED TO VICTIMS:	**$4,169.47**
FORENSIC POLYGRAPH EXAMS:	**40**

JUVENILE SERVICES

The Sheriff's Department assists area law enforcement agencies with the investigation, presentation, and prosecution of juvenile cases that allege serious criminal matters, including the utilization of diversion and alternative sentencing programs working with the Youth Services Bureau. 22 juvenile cases involving delinquency petitions were managed in 2009.

COURT SECURITY

The Sheriffs are required to provide security at the various state courts within their respective Counties. This includes the Belknap Superior Court, Probate

Court, and the Laconia Family Division. The Sheriff is also responsible for custody and control of prisoners appearing at the Laconia District Court. The latter duties are performed with the cooperation of Sheriff's Deputies, Court Security Officers, and the Bailiffs of the Administrative Office of the Courts. 2009 saw the re-opening of the remodeled Laconia Court, which now houses both District Court and the Family Division.

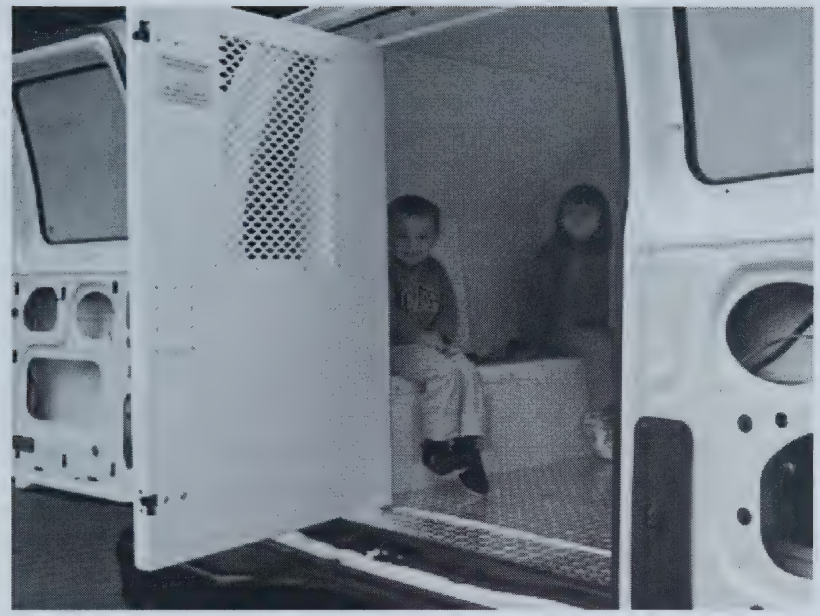
COMMUNICATIONS

The communications center provides services for the police departments of nine towns in Belknap County. Communications services are also provided to the Northfield Police Department on a contractual basis. In addition to the local towns, the communications center receives telephone calls and provides dispatch services for the local Fish and Game Officers, Liquor Investigators, Medical Examiners, and the County Attorney's Office. The communications center is a central hub for the dissemination of vital information to the various public safety agencies throughout the County and beyond.

CALLS FOR SERVICE PROCESSED:	**40,253**
TELEPHONE/RADIO TRANSMISIONS PROCESSED:	**57,773**

BELKNAP REGIONAL SPECIAL OPERATIONS GROUP

The Belknap Regional Special Operations Group is staffed by police personnel from across the central lakes region. The unit is specially trained and equipped to respond to critical or high-risk incidents such as serving arrest warrants and search warrants involving known armed or violent offenders, barricaded or suicidal subjects, hostage situations, and other dynamic events. The team was activated 6 times in 2009. In addition members trained as a group 24 times during the year. Four public education and two public relations events were presented.



Young visitors to Public Safety Day check out the Sheriff's Transport Van

On behalf of the dedicated men and women of the Belknap County Sheriff's Department, I wish to offer my thanks to the Belknap County Commissioners, the County Delegation, and the citizens of Belknap County for their support. We look forward to continuing to serve you.

Respectfully submitted,
Craig H. Wiggin
Sheriff

2009 Belknap County Youth Services Annual Report

2009 was an exciting year for the Restorative Justice Program and the Youth Services Bureau. The two agencies began discussing and laid the groundwork for merging at the beginning of 2010. The new name "Belknap County Youth Services" recognizes the rich 30-year history of the Youth Services Bureau of helping youth and families brings to the merger. The merger is a cost effective way to bring the services of both agencies together and to provide a more efficient and streamlined referral process.

The merger also has produced a volunteer base from both programs that will allow us to help youth and families. A goal of the Belknap County Youth services will be finding a way to better organize and utilize our volunteers.

Our volunteers continue to be very generous with their time and are always there to help the youth or the program when we need them. Our volunteers are a tremendous asset to the Program by helping victims of crime, juvenile offenders and being involved in community service projects. Our volunteers are why we can do so much in the community and keep our costs low.

In 2009 there were 59 new referrals made to the court diversion program. The youth completed 1,318 hours of community service and the program collected $935 in restitution for victims.

The Court Diversion Program allows victims and the community to speak freely about how crime affects them. It strengthens the juvenile offender's relationship with the community. Our program allows the juvenile to see the damage caused by their crime and lets them openly apologize for their actions. We are looking forward to another year of working with victims of crime, juvenile offenders, and the community to repair the harm caused by crime.

Our Court Diversion Program uses community service as a way of holding juveniles accountable for what they have done and as a way of repairing the harm caused by their crime. We are always looking for meaningful community service projects. Meaningful community service projects are either restorative to the victim or the community, allows the juvenile to have a positive interaction with his/her community, teaches the juvenile a new skill or builds a positive relationship with an adult.

We would like to thank the people that help us provide opportunities for community service projects. Some of the 80 different community service projects the youth worked on in 2009 were Habitat for Humanity, Service Link, The Boys & Girls Club of the Lakes Region, Catholic Charities, Good Shepard Lutheran Church, area senior centers, New Beginnings Crisis Center, The Turkey plunge, Make a difference day, Deck the Village and Sargent Park. The youth in the Restorative Justice program also worked with the Belknap County Master Gardener program of the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension. The youth worked with Master Gardeners at a fundraiser in Tilton, at the Belknap County Nursing Home, the Belmont Mill and at the Rotary Riverside Park next to the Belknap Mill in Laconia. These are just some examples of what the youth in the program are working on.

The Challenge Course is an educational program that provides an opportunity for teens to come together in a small group and explore their relationships with alcohol and or drugs.

The intention of the course is to intervene and curtail further substance involvement. Participants are confronted by their peers on their usage and challenged to remain drug and alcohol free.

There were 25 referrals to the Challenge program for 2009.

Residences:	Referral Sources:
Laconia: 5	Laconia PD: 2
Gilford: 3	Gilford PD: 3
Gilmanton: 4	Gilmanton PD: 5
Belmont: 1	Belmont PD: 1
Alton: 1	Alton: 2
Meredith: 3	Meredith: 4
Barnstead: 2	Tilton: 2
Sanbornton: 2	Other: 6
Other: 4	

Upswing is a secondary prevention program designed to assist youth ages 6-17 and their families in resolving problems which have gone beyond the family's capabilities of managing alone. The main goal of the program is to prevent families from having to seek court intervention with their at risk youth. Some of the

services provided are: advocacy for the youth and family, access and referrals to other community services, short term support and "counseling," a lesson between the family, school, and support agencies, education, decision making and communication skills and crisis intervention. Upswing is an avenue for holding youth accountable for their behavior while empowering them to make changes. Students must meet eligibility guidelines in order to participate.

In 2009 there were 43 referrals to Upswing and 21 new students were enrolled (this doesn't account for those that rolled over from 2008). These 21 students came from:

Laconia: 6
Belmont: 7
Gilford: 6
Gilmanton: 1
Meredith: 1

The 43 referrals came from: police, schools, parents, DJJS, and other social service agencies.

The issues worked on: anger management, non-compliance at home, non-compliance at school, academics, self-esteem, hygiene, effective communication, positive decision making, substance education, parent/child mediation, and truancy.

We would like to thank the County Commissioners, and the County Administrator and the County Delegation for their support.

Brian J. Loanes, Director
John M. Egan, Community Service Coordinator
Alicia Morey, Upswing case Manager

Belknap County Annual Maintenance Report
January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009

Introduction

2009 has been another productive year for the Belknap County Maintenance Department throughout the county. General building maintenance, repairs and capital improvements were accomplished in all county facilities. Each county department covered by the PSNH "Smart Start" energy efficient incentive program realized on an average, 20-25% savings in kWh's of electricity used. The retrofitting of all the lighting at our correctional facility was completed late spring, 2009. Our telephone service provider was changed to BayRing Communications which will save the county approximately $20,000.00 per year.

Courthouse

This year we had the good fortune of having several professional tradesmen serving as inmate laborers who performed a variety of tasks helping us tremendously. Plaster and sheetrock, stucco, painting, masonry, and landscaping were just a few repair projects that were done inside the building as well as out.

We replaced a deteriorating cement stair at the front main entrance, re-surfaced the entrance stairs and landing with an epoxy non-slip surface and installed new light posts next to the steps. We were able to re-surface five outside walls that had deteriorated with new stucco and paint. Curbing around most of the building and parking garage was re-pointed and cracks were filled to prevent heaving in the winter. The support pillars and exterior walls under the parking garage were repaired and refreshed with a new coat of paint. Arrows and wheelchair signs were painted on the surface of the hot top. Security lights were added to the rear of the courthouse to help prevent vandalism.

Several painting projects were accomplished using inmate and community service labor working closely with the New Hampshire Probation Department throughout the courthouse including; probate, deputy's area in basement, holding cells, hallways, dispatch and break room. The 2nd floor waiting room, two adjacent conference rooms and courtroom #1 were all restored. In courtroom 1, the woodwork was sanded, stained and restored to as close to the original as possible and all new finial bases were made and installed on courtroom railings.

Fencing was installed to protect a cooling tower, high voltage power supply to the courthouse and new LP gas tanks that replaced older rusting tanks which supply our emergency electric generator. Both outdoor storage buildings were repaired and a fresh coat of paint applied. Loam was spread and fertilizer and grass seed applied to bare areas on the lawns.

Mid-summer, a new roof for the court house was approved. The bid process was completed and the roof will be installed in the spring of 2010.

The Eastern side of the second floor outside wall, courtroom 1 waiting room, was repaired to replace rotted wood framing and sills.

Corrections Facility

Ongoing general maintenance continued at the jail in 2009 with several necessary improvements accomplished. The worn carpet was replaced in the foyer at the front entrance of the building. Skylights were sealed and inside skylight walls repaired and painted using an experienced roofer who was a member of our inmate labor team.

Many electrical, plumbing improvements, and repairs were made.

Jail showers were updated and a special epoxy coating was added to the girl's dorm shower base this year that is designed to outlast conventional tile or masonry shower bases.

Nursing Home

The nursing home maintenance crew has done a good job keeping up with all the general maintenance required of them and has helped a great deal with all the special projects throughout the year.

One of the highlights of the year was the planning and building of a large gazebo for the residents of the home. It was a hope of Anne Kyle, the home's activities director that the project could get off to a start this year. With the help of the resident's families and the Belknap County taxpayers, the project was funded. The maintenance department managed the project while the inmates at the county jail provided labor. Craig French, a master builder provided the expertise and skills to design and build the structure and guided his crew to a finished building to be

proud of. It was a special project with great results that benefited the residents as well as those who built it. Craig said, "I was privileged to be able to give back to Belknap County and at the same time do what I like best".

In early summer, the parking lot was rebuilt and a handicap space added for access to the Sheriff's Department. The project took about three weeks to complete and we are very pleased with the finished product.

Commissioner's Office-UNH Extension Service

A few special projects were completed in the Administrative wing. The removal of a separation wall and door in the finance office to open up more space was done. A new office was designed and built to better serve the public by inmates at the county jail.

Old underground wiring was replaced to the sign located next to the main entrance to County Drive. Over 800' of conduit was laid to protect the wires from the elements and to facilitate longevity.

In Conclusion

We are continuing our policy of getting the best possible value, dollar for dollar from contractors, vendors and suppliers. We entered into several new agreements in 2009 with vendors and suppliers, which resulted in even more savings throughout the year. The maintenance department is constantly looking for ways to save without jeopardizing quality and safety within our systems. We will continue in 2010 striving to find more economic solutions to maintenance and repair projects throughout the county.

I respectfully submit this annual report of the Belknap County Maintenance Department on the 22nd day of January 2010

Harold R. Powell,
Director of Maintenance
Belknap County

Belknap County Citizens Council On Children and Families Annual Report 2009

"To promote Community Justice so that children and families can live safely with dignity and respect."

Key accomplishments of the Citizens Council on Children and Families in 2009 included the publishing of an Issue Brief entitled, Helping Kids to Hope (posted on the Council website www.bccj.org). Following conductance of four community focus groups, the brief details how assets of the community can be used to further engage our youth in positive development to builds on their own assets to achieve and accomplish career and life long goals. Members of faith communities, education, forest and agriculture, and business attended focus groups to determine how their sectors could welcome and involve our youth in their activities. The findings pointed to numerous ways our community can come together for its youth and how we would all gain by doing so. Read the report and consider ways that you can contribute to a positive future for our youth.

The major Service Integration Initiative facilitated by the Citizens Council for the past eighteen months, concluded in the presentation of a set of final recommendations to the Department of Health and Human Services on December 15. Along with the recommendations, the workgroups developed and proposed a multi-disciplinary protocol (practice model) for youth who fall under the dual jurisdiction for the juvenile justice and child welfare systems – a population of youth who traditionally cost the county and state hundreds of thousands of dollars a year for intensive care placements. Work on this initiative began in 2008 as a result of examining Belknap County data on youth involved in delinquency and dependency cases and grew into a major system change project involving over 100 agency staff from juvenile justice, child protection, mental health, schools, substance abuse, domestic violence, the courts and a host of state agencies. Council volunteers and others spearheaded various committees that looked at polices, practices and procedures, analyzed process maps and how systems work then developed recommendations for how to serve this population of youth more effectively and efficiently. We now await further action by the state on the recommendations.

We are proud and pleased with the level of expertise and commitment of our council members and the effort contributed by many of our local agency leaders who participated throughout this initiative. John Tuell, our project's national consultant from the Child welfare League of America, had this to say: "While I have worked with numerous states on similar system reform, New Hampshire's initiative is the only one to have emerged from a grassroots, volunteer effort. The leadership of the Belknap County Citizens Council on Children and Families has been both excellent and expeditious." See the Council's website www.bccj.org for the final report, executive summary and protocol presented to the NH Department of Health & Human Services.

A final report was also submitted by the Council to the New Hampshire House and Senate on HB1370, a bill to allow information sharing among juvenile justice providers in Belknap County. This bill was introduced by Rep. Alida Millham and cosponsored by Reps. Jim Pilliod, Judie Reever and Beth Arsenault to allow providers to share specified information for purposes of improving services to juveniles who repeat offenses and to enhance the providers' ability to track recidivism. This report is also filed on the Council's website.

On October 2, 2009, the Council said goodbye to Judy Buswell after nearly eight years of service to the Council. Judy was recognized for her many contributions to the council and juvenile justice system serving, along with Sheila Weeks, as one of the prime movers behind the development of the Council and the Restorative Justice movement in Belknap County. Judy's retirement from County service gave us all cause to reflect on the many accomplishments she made to the Council and to the future of children and families in Belknap County.

And finally, after eight years of bringing systemic planning, program development and system change to Belknap County services for children, youth and families, the Citizens Council will be ending its work under the auspices of the Belknap County Commission. This move developed as the Council was informed that the County would no longer fund its efforts due to economic conditions and the decision to realign county expenditures with county responsibilities. In discussions between the County Commission and United Way leadership, a realignment of services was proposed that would see elder services, formerly funded by the United Way, fall under the county's umbrella while the planning, coordination and system integration activities performed by the Citizens Council become part of the array of services provided by the United Way. On January 4, 2010, Council Executive Director, Alan Robichaud will begin working for the Lakes Region

United Way and the Citizens Council will dissolve. We wish to thank Belknap County and our communities for their support and bringing attention, resources and change to the systems of care serving children and families. We shall remain forever indebted to the many citizens who gave of their time, passion and resources to improve people's lives and made our communities better places to live. Here are those who served with distinction so that our children and families can live safely with dignity and respect:

Scott Andersen
Betty Anson
Katy Apfel
Evelyn Auger
Beth Bascom
Laurie Belanger
Katie Brandt
Linda Brewer
Kim Campbell
Jim Carroll
Ruth Castonguay
Emily Clement
Wes Colby
Mark Condodemetraky
Christie Corrigan
Steve Fountain
Sarah Fox
Rasim Gusinac
Amy Hall
John Irwin
Rick Keller
Pam Kuczkowski
Sandy McLaughlin
Peter Michaud
Kate Miller
Andre Paquette
Alida Millham
Rich Moed
Ruth O'Hara
Jim Pilliod
Nancy Porosky
Deb Rosato
Rob Rovella
Micheline Roy
David Russell
Leo Sanfacon
Gil Schohan
Susan Smith
Dick Wallace
Mary Alice Warner
Kevin Washburn
Sandy Webber
Sheila Weeks
Katy Wells

Respectfully submitted,
Alan Robichaud, Executive Director

Belknap County Economic Development Council
2009 Annual Report to Belknap County

To the Honorable Commissioners:

Since establishing the Council in July of 1992, we have been providing economic development and business assistance to municipalities and existing, new, and prospective businesses on a request basis without charge. As a regional development organization, we strive for a climate that understands what sustainable economic development is and how it works, as well as the importance of planning and maintaining the economic infrastructure and wellbeing of the community and region. In our regional capacity, we have worked to unify the efforts of the region while remaining ever mindful of the desire to preserve the uniqueness of our communities.

The organization is structured as a non-profit 501(c)(6) regional development corporation with 100 Incorporators representing Belknap County municipalities, businesses, organizations, and residents. The Incorporators elect a Board of Directors consisting of up to 21 members.

Outreach and Networking:

2009 started as slowly as 2008 ended; the economy continued to flag and the Federal Government worked to enact stimulus legislation through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Shortly after the Annual Meeting, the BCEDC realized the heightened need to connect and collaborate with political leaders, state organizations, municipalities, business leaders and non-profit partners. The Executive Director attended the Governor's Information Session on ARRA at UNH, the Governor's Manufacturing Leadership Roundtable at SNHU, hosted and participated in the NH Business Review Regional Economic Roundtable, and hosted with partner Lakes Region SCORE a listening session with Congresswomen Carol Shea Porter. Dissemination of the information gathered was achieved through the hosting of an Incorporator information session "Hot Topics, Cold Lunch," attending the Small Business Financing Fair organized by Senator Shaheen's office, having the Executive Director of the BCEDC profiled in the Laconia Citizen and interviewed on Live United with Judy Taggart (aired on Lakes Region Public Access).

Notwithstanding these efforts Belknap County communities were still eager for information and assistance. In its summer newsletter, the BCEDC offered a mid-year Economic Snapshot for the area. The Council continued outreach on a regional basis through participation with the Lakes Region Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee (Chairperson of CEDS) and through membership in the NH Alliance of Regional Development Corporations (President of the organization for 2009). In the fall of 2009, the BCEDC and several Board of Director members participated in the Governor's Regional Jobs Cabinet for the Lakes Region (hosted by State of NH Department of Resources and Economic Development) and subsequently hosted a second Regional Economic Roundtable session with Business NH Magazine.

Revolving Loan Fund:

By mid-year the BCEDC had closed on two loans for about $370,000 and was approved with the Town of Barnstead for a $500,000 Community Development Block Grant for a start up wood pellet manufacturing facility on an underutilized 135-acre site. Continued economic distress led to stepped up response for technical assistance and key partner Lakes Region SCORE offered on-line counseling as well as face-to-face consultations. As a result, Lakes Region SCORE counseling efforts more than doubled with 221 face-to-face consultations (first and follow-on meetings) and 483 on-line sessions (new and follow-up meetings).

The 2009 business climate remained slow as the year ended, although for the full year the BCEDC Revolving Loan Fund closed on four loans for $900,000 and felt a renewed sense of hope as counseling session productivity improved and loan applications increased. 2010 is shaping up to look slightly better than 2009; however, the climb out of the recession will be long and the detours many.

Marketing and Community Involvement:

The BCEDC has long been a supporter of many other non-profit organizations in the Lakes Region, which further the goals of the BCEDC. The Council continues to provide administrative support and office facilities to Lakes Region SCORE and Leadership Lakes Region. The Executive Director has for the past few years chaired and spoken at Leadership Lakes Region's Economic Development Session Day. In 2009, BCEDC Program Coordinator Lyn O'Callaghan graduated from Leadership Lakes Region and proceeded to also get involved chairing History & Culture Day for Leadership Lakes Region and serving on the 2009-10 Lakes Region United Way Campaign Team.

The Executive Director continues to work closely with Lakes Region Planning Commission on the joint efforts of the Lakes Region Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy whether it is meeting with the Economic Development Administration or furthering projects, specifically the Lakes Region Brownfield's project.

Direct marketing efforts on behalf of the Council include advertising with the Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce in their membership directory and with Lakes Region Association in their "Where to Guide." The Council keeps its investors and incorporators informed through monthly e-newsletter, F.Y.I. and periodic print newsletter *Belknap Matters*. Three editions were published in 2009and all newsletters are available on-line at www.bcedc.org. Lastly, every year we try to make personal connections with as many investors and incorporators as possible through an information session on the BCEDC and our current endeavors. This year's session, held in June and titled "Hot Topics, Cold Lunch," provided an opportunity for those involved to get together and network about important topics to further economic development in the Lakes Region.

The website, www.bcedc.org focuses on getting information to area businesses whether they are seeking more details about our services, commercial lending options, topical published reports, or direct links to registering a business, traffic counts, commercial property or simply "who is who" in local and state government. During 2009 the site averaged 600 Unique Visitors per month with over 180,750 hits over the course of the year. Further each visit averages four minutes in duration and each visitor views on average three pages.

The website, www.liveworkandplaynh.com, which promotes the region as a place to live and work, have averaged 174 Unique Visitors per month with over 61,250 hits over the course of the year. Further each visit averages two and one half minutes in duration and each visitor views on average three pages.

Together We Make A Difference

The economic vitality of the region requires the commitment of many, and it is this support of the BCEDC through 18 years that is responsible for our achievements. We extend our sincere appreciation to the Belknap County Commissioners and Delegation. The quality of assistance the Council offers to Belknap County communities, businesses and organizations could not be realized without your continued support.

Since inception, funding for our services has come from a mixture of public and private sources. In 2009, we received over $70,000 in grants and contributions to underwrite various activities. Nearly 100 community investors help us maintain services and develop initiatives that enhance the region's economy. Southern New Hampshire University continued to provide office and meeting space for the Council and its partners despite having closed its Laconia campus; this contribution is valued in excess of $25,000. The County provided $75,000 in operating revenues for 2009. The balance of revenues was raised through our Revolving Loan Fund lending; the Council oversees more than $2.9 million in assets for the benefit of Belknap County. To date, the Council has assisted the County and towns in securing approximately $6 million in Community Development Block Grants that are invested in community projects.

An organization is only as dynamic as its people; we thank both our staff and volunteers for their commitment. Special thanks to the staff in the County's Administrative Office; we appreciate Debra Shackett, Norm O'Neil, Marie Mora, Angela Bovill and Renee McMahon for the extra distance they have gone in assisting us. We owe a continued debt to Southern New Hampshire University for housing our Business Information Center library and providing us with our offices and meeting space, which has greatly enhanced our delivery of services and programs.

We truly make a difference because of the generous support of our member-investors; these businesses and individuals recognize that working together to enhance economic opportunities benefits everyone.

As we celebrate 18 years of service to Belknap County, we rededicate ourselves with dogged determination. We envision the possibilities and opportunities our future holds.

Thank you for your support — together we are making a difference!

Respectfully submitted,
Board of Directors

Tom Garfield *Chair*

Laconia Savings Bank
Michael Persson, Esq. *Vice Chair*
Lawson and Persson, PC
Ed Engler, *Secretary*
Laconia Daily Sun
Sean Sullivan, *Treasurer*
Denoncourt, Waldron and Sullivan
Bill Beyer, *Director,*
Retired Banker
Dale Dormody, *Director*
DK Net Design
Mark Edelstein Ph.D., *Director*
Lakes Region Community College
Tony Ferruolo, *Director*
Hospitality Consultant
James Fitzgerald, *Director*
Retired Educator
Debbie Frawley Drake, *Director*
LRL Enterprises, Inc.
Greg Goddard, *Director*
Gunstock Mountain Resort
David Haley, *Director*
Munsey & Brazil Insurance Agency
Kimon Koulet, *Director*
Lakes Region Planning Commission
Sam Laverack, *Director*
Meredith Village Savings Bank
Henry Lipman, *Director*
Councilor, City of Laconia
Paige T. Quigley, *Director*
The Wilder Companies
John Thomas, *Director*
Retired State Legislator
Jane Wood, *Director*
Patrick Wood Law Office, PLLC
Jennifer D. Boulanger, *Executive Director*

Lyn O'Callaghan, *Program Coordinator*

www.bcedc.org

The Full 2009 Report of the BCEDC Board will be released on March 24, 2010 and will be available on our website, www.bcedc.org , or by calling the BCEDC office at 603-524-3057.

Belknap County-UNH Cooperative Extension
Annual Report: 2009

Family & Consumer Resources Program
Sue Cagle, Extension Educator

Belknap County Family & Consumer Resource programs offer research based resources, information and educational opportunities in three broad subject areas: Food Safety & Nutrition, Resource Management, and Child Development. Information is made available through one-day workshops, workshop series, publications, and direct consultation. 1541 individuals participated in the various programs offered this year.

Food Safety and Nutrition:

The CDC estimates that 76 million illnesses, 325,000 hospitalizations, and 5,000 deaths occur annually from food-borne illness. FCR food safety programs target knowledge and behavior within the food service environment that is connected to a reduction in risk such as good personal hygiene practices, preventing cross contamination, and controlling time and temperature conditions of food.

- 183 food service workers completed the SAFE-Safety Awareness in the Food Environment program This included participants from local restaurants, schools and other community organizations. Participants demonstrated an increased knowledge of key risk factors and strategies to reduce risk.

The US overall has seen a marked increase in rates of Obesity in recent years. This increase has been linked to corresponding increases in a variety of preventable diseases, increased health care costs, and a decrease in productivity and quality of life. As of 2008 CDC data indicates a 24% obesity rate for adults in NH. UNHCE works to promote quality, research based programs that promote healthy eating and active living in our communities.

- 51 individuals participated in workshops or received information and resources focusing on nutrition and physical activity. Participants reported making changes that included increased knowledge of nutritional recommendations and ability to read and interpret food labels, increased intake of whole grains,

vegetables, and fruits, decreased intake of high calorie, low nutrient foods and increased physical activity.

- Through continued work with the Lakes Region HEAL team, comprised of UNHCE, Lakes Region Partnership for Public Health, LRGH, and other community organizations, in 2009, LRPPH received a 150,000 grant to implement programs targeting childhood obesity in the lakes region. This collaborative program will include providing training and resources to child care centers and after school programs to implement the CATCH Kids club program.

Family Resource Management:

During these difficult economic times, many families are experiencing increased financial pressure. Family Resource Management programs focus on increasing knowledge and skills in a variety of areas, including: identifying goals and developing a spending/savings plan, understanding credit and reducing overall debt, stretching resources, and becoming a more educated consumer.

- 161 individuals participated in workshops and series offered in a variety of locations throughout the county. Participants reported an increased knowledge and use of financial management strategies including, developing a budget, developing a debt reduction plan, building savings, and developing short and long term financial goals.

Parenting and Child Development:

Research indicates that when we increase positive, age appropriate experiences in childhood and support healthy adult/child relationships; we decrease the risks that children will engage in risky or anti-social behaviors as they move into adulthood. To that end, the FCR Child Development programs focus on providing adult caregivers and role models with the knowledge and skills needed to enhance the experiences and relationships of children. Programs including workshops and series were offered in a variety of settings focused on increasing protective factors relating to knowledge of child development, communication and conflict management, positive discipline, managing stress and building supports.

- 77 parents/caregivers participated in workshop series offered throughout the county. Participants reported an increase in knowledge of child development,

use of positive discipline strategies, increased confidence in parenting skills and ability to manage conflict and stress.

- An additional 923 families received the Cradle Crier/Toddler Tales age based newsletter series. Parents enroll in this series when their child is born and continue to receive information throughout the first two years of their child's life. Parents report that the information helps them to know what to expect as their child develops as well as to providing information to assist with making decisions around providing a positive environment for development.

- 255 Child care and early childhood professionals participated in 3 trainings held around the state focusing on increasing knowledge of early child development and the importance of early learning and implementing evidence based practices to promote positive development.

Forestry Program
Andrew Fast, Extension Educator

SUMMARY OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND IMPACTS

- An estimated 1361 individuals were directly contacted through telephone calls, publication distribution, one-on-one visits and group educational meetings. Approximately 532 people attended 27 group educational meetings on a variety of forestry, wildlife, and conservation related subjects. Landowners participated in 89 woodland exams covering 3866 acres

This Accomplishment Report is an executive summary of educational programs and information given to Belknap County residents, listed by forestry program objectives.

FOREST STEWARDSHIP

- Assistance to forest landowners regarding land stewardship and management of forest resources continues to be the primary program objective. The following summary highlights the activities and impacts:
  - o 829 landowners were assisted through email and telephone conversations on a wide variety of forest resource and wildlife subjects. Landowners participated in 89 woodland exams covering 3866 acres
  - o A wide variety of topics were discussed including (short list): wildlife habitat enhancement, silviculture, selling timber, forest management

planning, the Current Use program, forest harvesting laws, conservation easements, forest ecology, recreational trails, how to find a logger or forester, cost-share programs, and chain saw safety. Fact sheets and literature related to topics were also distributed.

- There were 48 referrals to consulting foresters for forestry services including: stewardship plan preparation, timber stand improvement, timber sale preparation and administration, wildlife habitat enhancement, cost-share activities, boundary line identification, Current Use maps, and road layout.
- Planned, reviewed and/or approved cost share practices totaling $14,349 dollars These practices included: 6 cost-shared forest stewardship plans covering 336 acres ($6,718), 10 acres of timber stand improvement ($1,500), and 1 acre of forest trails and landings ($6,131).

- Continued technical assistance, outreach, and project review for Environmental Quality Assistance Program (EQIP) in Belknap County through a MOU between the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Forestry and Wildlife staff. See previous EQIP reporting.
- Participated in Spatial Analysis Project (SAP) along with other Forestry and Wildlife Program and U.S. Forest Service staff. SAP is a GIS-based strategic management tool that allows Forestry and Wildlife Program to spatially display important forest lands, tracts under Forest Stewardship plans, and areas of opportunity to focus future outreach efforts.
- Completed the Belknap County component of the NH Forest Stewardship Plan Implementation Monitoring Project for FY09. This is an effort by the U.S. Forest Service to better understand how cost share assisted stewardship plans result in on the ground management.

URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY

- Worked with the Laconia Shade Tree Group with support from Mary Tebo, UNH Extension Educator in Community Forestry and John Parry, Urban Forester USDA Forest Service, to complete a shade tree inventory of downtown Laconia.
- Provided assistance to the City of Laconia for their Weir Community Park Project.
- Of 89 woodlot exams, 31 related to Urban Forestry, Forest Health, or the Comprehensive Shoreland Protection Act.
- UNHCE played in important role in identifying the first incidence of Hemlock Wooly Adelgid (HWA) in Belknap County. It is presently in the process of being eradicated at that site.

NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION EDUCATION

- Conducted workshops with colleagues and cosponsors on the following topics: cutting firewood; tree and shrub ID; selling timber; forest management; thinning; dendrology; backyard sugaring; prescribed fire; current use; NH Big Tree Program; NRCS conservation programs; vernal pools; and creating habitat for migratory birds.
- Participated and planned Project Learning Tree Walk in the Forest Field Days in Gilford, New Hampton and Freemont
- Met with Gilford Elementary School in support of their CO-SEED project.
- In cooperation with Charlie French and his graduate student, Jill Scahill, worked with the Town of Gilmanton to complete a Natural Resource Audit of Town Documents.

OTHER ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Served as the following:
  - Secretary, New England Society of American Foresters
  - Continuing Forestry Education Coordinator, New England Society of American Foresters
  - Participant, Lighten Up New Hampshire committee.
  - Board member of the Belknap Range Conservation Coalition
  - Belknap County Chair, NH Tree Farm Program
  - Participant, Kimball Castle Wildlife Forest Committee
  - Participant, *Good Forestry in the Granite State* Timber Quality and Flow Team
- 12 foresters and 19 loggers who benefit from UNHCE educational programs by receiving continuing education credits for professional licenses (NH forester license and NH Timber Harvesting Council certified logger program) were involved in timber sales in Belknap County.
- Worked with Belknap County groups, individuals, and constituents through office, field meetings and professional conferences. A partial list includes: small, medium and large landowners, professional loggers, NH licensed foresters, Belknap County Conservation District, Gunstock (Belknap County Government), City of Laconia, Town of Alton, Town of Gilford, Town of Meredith, Town of Gilmanton, NH Fish and Game, NH Division of Forests and Lands, US Forest Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Society of American Foresters, New England Society of American Foresters Granite State Division Society of American Foresters, NH Audubon, The

Forest Society, and the NH chapter of the Nature Conservancy.

- 21 articles appeared in local and regional papers or other media outlets making residents aware of programs, resources, and relevant natural resources topics.

Nutrition Connections Program
Brenda Carey, Extension Program Associate

Nutrition Connections helps people living in or near poverty acquire the knowledge and skills needed to make changes in behavior, improve diets and to get more for their food dollars. Education is offered in the areas of nutrition, money management, food preparation, food safety, menu planning and smart shopping. Nutrition Connections also works with schools that meet income criteria.

Research has documented the effectiveness of this program for increasing the nutritional well-being of the families it serves. A national survey in 2007 showed that 92% of those "graduating" from these programs improved their dietary intake. This included an increase of about 1.4 servings per day of fruits and vegetables.

Nutrition Connections, through the national Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP), saves states and families money. Multiple cost benefit analyses in several states highlight the value of the program and document that for every dollar invested in EFNEP, benefits can reach as high as $10.64 from reduced health care costs. Another study showed that for every $1 to implement the program, $2.48 is saved on food expenditures, reducing the need for emergency food assistance.

In Belknap County, 518 youth and 354 adults with 707 family members participated in Nutrition Connections programming during the program year 2008-2009. This includes one-time classes as well as people enrolled in a series of classes. Data from pre/post surveys for adults taking a series of lessons indicate the following percentage of adults changed their behavior after they completed Nutrition Connections classes in 2008-2009:

- Overall, 85% of the adults who took a series of classes (usually 5-6 lessons), showed improvement in one or more nutrition practices. These include planning meals, comparing prices, not running out of food before the end of the month and shopping with a grocery list.
- Overall, 96% showed improvement in at least one of the following: making healthy food choices, preparing foods without adding salt, reading nutrition

labels and making sure their children ate breakfast.

- Overall, 58% showed improvement in food safety such as thawing and/or storing foods properly. Food safety is critical to avoiding food borne illness. Food borne illness can result in days lost from work or from school and increased health care costs.

Teacher feedback from Belknap County schools is extremely exciting and positive. A few of the student changes observed by teachers include:

- Students are eating more fruits and vegetables.
- Students are eating breakfast more often.
- Students are going home and "teaching" their families about what they have learned.
- Students are making better choices at the grocery stores.
- Students are reading labels.
- Students are bringing healthier snacks from home.

Overall, people who participate in Nutrition Connections programming in Belknap County are making improved health/nutrition choices for themselves and their families. The implications to making smart nutrition choices are financial, emotional and physical. Nutrition Connections helps people learn how to become more self reliant and more independent. We provide the education to people so they have the tools, awareness and knowledge to make healthier choices.

4-H Youth Development Program
Rebecca Levesque, Extension Educator

Situation: The economic climate of the county, state, and federal supporters has led to much scrutiny of social programs for youth and families supporting a greater need for creative collaborations. Unfortunately, this reduces the support available to high risk families. Unemployment is still very high increasing family stress and pro-social behavior. It is critical at this time that the structure of UNH 4-H Youth Development programs are maintained and expanded in order to meet the escalating needs of the families in our communities.

National 4-H Council supported a longitudinal study at Tufts University by Richard Lerner, director of the Institute for Applied Research in Youth Development called "The Positive Development of Youth: Technical Report." Participants included about 4,000 diverse adolescents with varying levels of involvement in community-based programs, such as 4-H clubs, Boys & Girls Clubs, YMCA, and

Scouting that participate in this study. One goal of the study was to assess the effects of participation in 4-H by a non-biased party. Among the youth studied, 20% are from the Northeast and 40% of those are in rural communities. The reported results showed 4-H youth had higher Positive Youth Development (PYD), contribution, and lower risk and problem behaviors and depressive symptom levels. 4-H youth have higher grades, emotional school engagement, and expectations for going to college. Youth in 4-H also reported slightly more mentors than non-4-H youth. The complete report can be found at http://ase.tufts.edu/iaryd/documents/4HStudyAnnualReport2008.pdf .

Program Demographics: Belknap County 4-H has a membership of 231 youth of which 167 are in K-8th grade, 64 teens are in 9th – 12th grade. There are 117 female volunteers and 46 males where a total of 30 have mentored youth for 15 or more years. 21 4-H groups are open to all youth throughout the county and an additional 5 family's work independently on projects. Underserved audiences are encouraged to participate in traditional programs. 3 Nepalese teens attended Teen (leadership) Conference at UNH, 8 Nepalese youth have joined the county Teen Club, and efforts to connect military youth are underway to offer support to families with deployed members. 4-H members raised $4,478.50 from cookie sales and donations for the Belknap County 4-H Foundation to support activities and scholarships. The 4-H Fair had another successful year highlighting our agriculture and environmental science roots. This is the only fair in the state that is non-profit and is completely organized and run by volunteers for the community.

Program Description: Critical program components include juried 4-H curriculum, educational events and activities with a focus on civic education, communication, family sciences, environmental science, healthy lifestyles, leadership, plants and animals, and science and technology. 191 adults and 65 teen volunteers were training in positive youth development, leadership, and project specific instruction. Community groups offer hands on learning and critical thinking skills in projects of interest. County events provide opportunities for youth to practice skills and increase communication and personal development skills. State, Regional, and National opportunities offer youth higher learning opportunities in career decisions, and workforce prep to name a few. The flexibility of 4-H allows groups to utilize resources the way that will benefit their specific group.

Impacts: Here are a few quotes from parents and youth self reporting on evaluations:

"Responsibility, determination, goal setting, leadership, cooperation and social

skills are just a few of the many life skills my daughter has learned in the dog and cavy/rabbit projects."

"My girls are now grown, but I can see the influence of 4-H in everything they do! They are self confident, independent, involved in their community, kind, and step up to the plate to leadership roles when needed."

"My daughter was having problems in school and was very unhappy to be there. She hopes to become a large animal Vet or Vet Tech. so her school contacted the 4-H office where she found a mentor to help with her goal. She started working independently with the local working steer 3 days a week. After a few weeks at the farm she was walking around school smiling. The school counselor was so impressed that they gave her full credit for doing the animal science program and is seeking a grant to sustain the learning opportunity in future years.

Agricultural Resources Program
William Lord, Extension Educator

The Agricultural Resources program in Belknap County provides research based information on soil science, integrated pest management, fruit and vegetable production, lawn care, pasture and hay land, nursery/bedding plant production and landscaping. Since moving to the Belknap County office in May, my focus has been on maintaining a strong presence with commercial agriculture as well as offering Belknap County citizens at large access to agricultural expertise.

As part of my work with the agricultural community, I have made on-site visits to most commercial agricultural operations. These visits have included crop surveys and recommendations to farmers on issues such as pest management, fertility management, and crop specific cultural care. As a result, I was able to identify key pest and crop issues that could significantly reduce crop yield and quality and make remedial recommendations. One key pest issue I addressed aggressively was late blight in tomato and potato. Tomatoes represent one of the top two crops Belknap farmers sell in terms of gross receipts. And they are an important crop, along with strawberry and sweet corn, which draws customers to roadside stands. Stand traffic is key to profitability for most Belknap County crop farms.

To address the late blight epidemic, I visited each farm growing tomatoes and potatoes personally to both survey fields and greenhouses for the disease and to give the latest control recommendations from Extension Plant Pathologist, Cheryl Smith. Follow-up visits to key sites were conducted at the request of growers concerned about plant symptoms. With one exception, Belknap County commer-

cial growers were able to manage this potentially catastrophic disease issue with little loss of crop.

Weather related problems plagued most fruit growers and reduced hay yield and quality (protein content) significantly. On-site consultations with hay producers focused on proper nutrient management. Most hay fields visited were significantly low in potassium and recommendations to address this need were made. In addition, recommendations for new seedings representing 60 acres of hay were made.

For fruit growers, the wet weather increased disease pressure dramatically compared to past years. Key issues addressed were the proper use of post-infection activity fungicides and proper timing of protectant fungicides.

Home owners in Belknap County experienced problems that were, as in commercial agriculture, primarily weather related. Home lawn diseases, late blight, poor seed germination, and a variety of pest issues were addressed when dealing with over 250 home owner requests and office visits. Several news paper articles dealing with home garden issues were written and published.

One community effort is with Meredith where I worked with the Parks and Recreation Department to identify invasive species and recommend remedial action for their elimination.

Highlights of Agricultural Resources Program Impacts, May – October, 2009

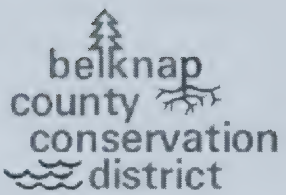
- Belknap County Agriculture Statistics
  - 270 farms
  - 23,378 acres in farms
  - $7.668 million (value of products)

- Commercial agriculture industry development
  - Work included approximately 65 site visits on commercial farms plus phone calls and e-mail contacts
  - Fruit pruning workshop attended by 45
  - Pasture Management Meeting attended by 24
  - Pesticide recertification credit offerings – 2 grower meetings
  - Pesticide safety education for new private applicators given to 16

- Recommendations on site selection, pre-plant soil preparation, and variety selection were made for 1.5 acres of strawberry, 15 acres of mixed vegetable production, and 65 acres of hay
- Recommendations for control of specific crop pests, nutrient management issues, and other crop management problems resulted in a savings to growers of approximately $140,000

- In addition, appropriate use of fertilizers reduced risk of surface and ground water pollution
- Part-time farmers, home gardens and grounds
  - Over 500 phone, office visit, and e-mail contacts and site visits
  - 3 articles on garden problems in local papers

Belknap County Conservation District 2009 Annual Report



Overview

Belknap County Conservation District (BCCD) is a non-regulatory county agency that exists to help the citizens of Belknap County manage their natural resources. Our primary focus is to prevent the loss of soil through erosion, contamination or depletion and to maintain or improve water quality both above and below ground. We accomplish this by providing access to technical expertise and financial assistance through our partnership with the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS); administering private and government grants; coordinating paid and volunteer labor; and collaboration with other federal, state, and local agencies/organizations.

The Board of Supervisors of BCCD periodically surveys the public to identify specific concerns within the county that BCCD can address. Our current project priorities include agricultural conservation, community planning & water quality, wetlands & surface mining, wildlife & woodlands, and air quality & energy.

Accomplishments in 2009

In 2009 BCCD addressed the publics' identified concerns by:

Agricultural Conservation

- providing 200 hours of file management and reporting assistance to USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service – New Hampshire for federal cost-share contracts held in Belknap County
- co-hosting a 2008 Farm Bill information meeting that attracted over 25 participants
- touring farmers' markets in the county to promote cost-share programs for conservation
- working with farmers interested in conservation easements
- assisting Lutheran Social Services with refugee farmers program
- partnering with UNH Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners on Demo Garden Project

Community Planning & Water Quality

- providing customers with aerial photos, computer generated soil maps and reports, and Soil Potential Index calculations to assist in land use planning
- serving on the Lake Winnipesaukee Watershed Management Plan Steering Committee
- performing outreach at, or hosting, events for natural resource professionals
- participating in the City of Laconia's street tree inventory
- securing a grant to install a rain garden at Center Harbor Town Beach
- installing a windmill powered aeration system for Hunkins Pond
- facilitating the creation of a volunteer base to perform water testing for Hunkins Pond
- providing natural resource related display materials to municipalities

Wetlands & Surface Mining

- promotion of Wetlands Reserve Program – a 2008 Farm Bill program
- working with landowners to identify funding sources for wetland conservation

Wildlife & Woodlands

- coordinating Tree & Shrub Sale that features plants for conservation and wildlife

Air Quality & Energy

- planning installation of a wind turbine to assist a farmer with energy conservation
- promotion of NRCS Conservation Innovation Grants for energy conservation projects

Funding in 2009

- BCCD receives a portion of its funding from the county. In 2009 Belknap County contributed $95,159 to BCCD's operating budget. The county funds were used to pay the salary and benefits of one full-time staff member, the wages of two part-time staff members, and to have a full financial audit performed. Grant funds and other monies were secured through fundraising, service fees or donations to pay for project expenses and some operational costs. The county's contribution is vital to the ability of the District to apply for grants that bring additional dollars into Belknap County. Grantors see a contribution from the county as a validation of support. Without that valida-

tion grantors are not likely to award grant dollars. Most grants do not pay for staff, only the supplies for a project.

- BCCD works with the U.S. Department of Agriculture – Natural Resources Conservation Service to bring federal dollars into the county. These federal dollars are used for conservation projects and are dispersed throughout the county. Through its relationship with the Belknap County Conservation District (BCCD) the federal government annually supplies technical expertise, equipment and rental space to Belknap County. This federal support represents approximately $300,000 of value annually to the county, made possible by the presence of BCCD.
- BCCD extends a Thank You to the NH Mooseplate Grant Program, the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, and private donors and customers for financially assisting us in our service to Belknap County.

Staff in 2009

- BCCD's activities are managed by Coordinator, Lisa Morin. In 2009, Ms. Morin was awarded the New Hampshire Association of Conservation District's *President's Choice Award* for her outstanding dedication to Conservation Districts.
- Other BCCD staff consists of Nancy Sapack, Program Assistant; Lisa Rixen, Project Manager; seasonal staffing provided by Jan Welch and Shirley Stokes
- BCCD uses the services of paid consultant Lee Pleeter, Bookkeeper and Mary Baker provided by the federally subsidized agency - National ABLE
- VOLUNTEERS!!! Every year BCCD is indebted to its many volunteers who give their time and resources to Belknap County though our projects and programs.

Respectfully Submitted,
BCCD Board of Supervisors

John Hodsdon, Chairman, Meredith
Ken Kettenring, Supervisor, New Hampton
Earle Chase, Supervisor, Barnstead
Jon Martin, Supervisor, Laconia
Paul Rushlow, Supervisor, Tilton
Nancy Rendall, Associate Supervisor, Gilmanton

Melanie Benton, Associate Supervisor, New Hampton
Dean Anson, Associate Supervisor, Laconia

All BCCD and NRCS programs and services are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, disability, political belief, marital or familial status.

To the Residents of Belknap County:

Thank You for Supporting Genesis Behavioral Health!

The appropriation we received from Belknap County's 2009 budget has helped us to cover the costs of providing mental health services to residents of your community who are unable to pay the full cost of their services.

During Calendar Year 2009 (January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009), a total of 2,164 Belknap County residents came to Genesis Behavioral Health seeking help for their mental health problems.

Of that total, funding from Belknap County directly supported 105 adults between the ages of eighteen (18) and fifty-nine (59). These individuals were chosen based on proof of residency and financial and medical need. In an effort to link Belknap County residents to community resources, Genesis refers everyone without health insurance to Healthlink. We use the Healthlink plan as a form of discount for the client. We do not ask Belknap County to support services for clients who have other means to pay, such as insurance or sufficient funds to cover the cost of their services.

The mission of Genesis Behavioral Health is to provide direct services that enhance the emotional and mental health of our communities. Our staff is accountable for placing individuals on the path to recovery from mental illness and aiding them in their daily lives throughout the process.

At Genesis Behavioral Health, we specialize in individual and group counseling and psychiatric services. We work with our most persistently ill patients on basic life skills such as public interaction and stable employment, helping them to be productive members of their community. We help parents and children to foster strong family relationships. Working with local police and fire departments, we provide Emergency Services twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week, to residents of any age experiencing a mental health crisis. This service is avail

able to anyone, regardless of ability to pay. We provide emotional support to the community in the wake of a tragic event.

The financial support of Belknap County has helped to strengthen our work with people with mental illness and/or emotional distress, particularly those adults who do not have the insurance or resources to pay for medically necessary mental health treatment. The services provided by Genesis Behavioral Health help improve the quality of life for so many, including the communities we serve, and yet are rarely covered by insurance plans or state programs. On behalf of all of the individuals we serve, we thank you.

Sincerely,

Margaret M. Pritchard
Executive Director

2009 Budget Review Process
County Convention Subcommittees Minutes

Sub Committee on Administration
Belknap County Commissioner's Meeting Room
January 19, 2009 2:00 pm.

Members Present: Steve Nedeau, Chairman, and Beth Arsenault

Members Absent: John Veazey

Also Present: Debra Shackett, County Administrator and Representative Field

Ms. Shackett reviewed the Commissioner's recommendations for 2009. Rep. Nedeau made a motion to eliminate the County Staff Car. Rep. Arsenault seconded the motion and it was voted in the affirmative.

The Representatives recommended the Commissioner's budget as presented.

Respectfully submitted,
Debra A Shackett, County Administrator

Sub Committee on Citizen's Council
Belknap County Commissioner's Meeting Room
January 19, 2009 10:00 am.

Members Present: Beth Arsenault, Chairman, and Judith Reever

Members Absent: Richard Stuart, Peter Bolster

Also Present: Alan Robichaud, Director Citizens Council, Gil Schohan, Citizens Council, Debra Shackett, County Administrator, Alida Millham, Delegation Chair, and Jim Pilliod, County Delegation.

Director Robichaud reviewed the Commissioner's budget recommendation and explained many of the programs and initiatives the Council is presently involved with. He presented materials explaining the background, achievements, and goals of the Council.

There was extensive discussion about the need for support of children in the community and the value of court diversion services. The Council facilitates and coordinates many of these activities.

There was general consensus that the County should continue paying for Citizen's Council.

The two absent members will meet with the Council Director to review this meeting and then the Sub Committee will meet again to make a recommendation on the budget.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Debra A Shackett, County Administrator

Sub Committee on County Attorney's Office
Belknap County Commissioner's Meeting Room
January 19, 2009 3:30 pm.

Members Present: Steve Nedeau, Chairman, and Beth Arsenault

Members Absent: John Veazey

Also Present: County Attorney Jim Carroll, Brenda Lonzo, Debra Shackett, County Administrator and Representative Field

Attorney Carroll reviewed the Commissioner's recommendations for 2009 and explained several of the line items. The subcommittee asked if Attorney Carroll is comfortable with the Commissioners recommendations and was assured that he is. Rep. Arsenault made a motion to approve the Commissioner's budget as presented; it was seconded by Rep. Nedeau and voted in the affirmative.

Respectfully submitted,
Debra A Shackett, County Administrator

Sub Committee on Registry of Deeds
Belknap County Commissioner's Meeting Room
January 19, 2009 3:15 pm.

Members Present: Steve Nedeau, Chairman, and Beth Arsenault

Members Absent: John Veazey

Also Present: Barbara Luther, Registrar, Debra Shackett, County Administrator and Representative Field

Registrar Luther reviewed the Commissioner's recommendations for 2009 and explained several of the line items. Rep. Arsenault made a motion to approve the Commissioner's budget as presented; it was seconded by Rep. Nedeau and voted in the affirmative.

Respectfully submitted,
Debra A Shackett, County Administrator

Sub Committee on Human Services
Belknap County Commissioner's Meeting Room
January 19, 2009 4:00 pm.

Members Present: Steve Nedeau, Chairman, and Beth Arsenault

Members Absent: John Veazey

Also Present: Carol Schonfeld, Human Services Director, Debra Shackett, County Administrator and Representative Field

Ms. Schonfeld reviewed the Commissioner's recommendations for 2009 and explained many of the changes within her department. The subcommittee asked if Ms. Schonfeld was comfortable with the Commissioners recommendations and was assured that she is. Rep. Arsenault made a motion to approve the Commissioner's budget as presented; it was seconded by Rep. Nedeau and voted in the affirmative.

Respectfully submitted,
Debra A Shackett, County Administrator

Sub Committee on Maintenance
Belknap County Commissioner's Meeting Room
January 19, 2009 4:30 pm.

Members Present: Steve Nedeau, Chairman, and Beth Arsenault

Members Absent: John Veazey

Also Present: Harold Powell, Maintenance Director, Debra Shackett, County Administrator and Representative Field

Mr. Powell reviewed the budget. The committee asked several questions about the condition of the parking lot and when it is scheduled to be repaired. They also discussed the condition of various facility roofs. Mr. Powell indicated that he believed it is a mistake not to replace the plow truck this year. Rep. Arsenault made a motion to approve the Commissioner's budget with the addition of $5000 for engineering work on the parking lot; it was seconded by Rep. Nedeau and voted in the affirmative.

Respectfully submitted,
Debra A Shackett, County Administrator

Sub Committee on Airport
Belknap County Commissioner's Meeting Room
January 23, 2009 11:00 am.

Members Present: John Veazey, Chairman, David Russell, Jim Pilliod

Also Present: Diane Cooper, Newbold LeRoy, Debra Shackett, County Administrator and Representative Fields

Ms. Cooper reviewed the changes that have taken place at the airport over the years and answered many questions about the development. Rep. Pilliod made a motion to approve the Commissioner's budget as presented; it was seconded by Rep. Russell and passed with a 3-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Debra A Shackett, County Administrator

Sub Committee on BCEDC
Belknap County Commissioner's Meeting Room
January 23, 2009 9:00 am.

Members Present: Judith Reever, Chairman, Dennis Field, Richard Stuart, Kate Miller and Don Flanders

Also Present: Jennifer Boulanger, Tom Garfield, Jane Wood, Don Morrissey, John Thomas, Greg Goddard, David Haley, Mark Edelstein, Mike Persson, Ed Engler, Debra Shackett, County Administrator and Representative Boyce

Mr. Goddard explained the role of BCEDC and several projects that they are currently involved with. Ms. Boulanger explained their financial position and the roles of the two other staff members. She also informed the committee that the $75000 county appropriation is necessary to the long term continuation of the Council. Mr. Goddard explained the Board's strategic planning goals. Rep. Fields made a motion to add $75000 to the Commissioner's budget; it was seconded by Rep. Flanders and passed with a 6-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Debra A Shackett, County Administrator

Sub Committee on Corrections
Belknap County Commissioner's Meeting Room
January 23, 2009 3:00 pm.

Members Present: Don Flanders, Chairman, Liz Merry, Dennis Field, Steve Nedeau, Fran Wendelboe, Jeffrey St. Cyr.

Also Present: Superintendent Grenier, Debra Shackett, County Administrator and Representative Boyce

Superintendent Grenier reviewed his budget. Members of the Committee asked many questions looking for potential savings and asked the Superintendent to justify several of his requests. They also explored any potential for increasing revenue. The Committee was very concerned about the maintenance account not being sufficient, and wanted to be sure that the county infrastructure is being properly maintained. Rep. Nedeau made a motion to approve the Commissioner's budget as presented; it was seconded by Rep. Boyce and passed with a 6-0 vote. There was also a discussion about pending legislation regarding Corrections and mental health issues/medication.

Respectfully submitted,
Debra A Shackett, County Administrator

Sub Committee on Juvenile Restorative Justice
Belknap County Commissioner's Meeting Room
January 23, 2009 4:00 pm.

Members Present: Don Flanders, Chairman, Liz Merry, Dennis Field, Steve Nedeau, Fran Wendelboe, Jeffrey St. Cyr.

Also Present: Director, Brian Loanes, Armand Maheux, Debra Shackett, County Administrator and Representative Boyce

Brian Loanes reviewed the budget in detail. He informed the Committee that the budget has been very lean for two years and will eventually have to be addressed if his department is to continue. Rep. Wendelboe asked for significant justification for the continuance of this department. A majority of those present recognized that the State should recognize its financial responsibility for this program. Rep. Flanders made a motion to approve the Commissioner's budget as presented; it was seconded by Rep. Nedeau and passed with a 5-1 vote. Members asked for a statistical report on activity of the department.

Respectfully submitted,
Debra A Shackett, County Administrator

Sub Committee on Sheriff's Department
Belknap County Commissioner's Meeting Room
January 23, 2009 4:30 pm.

Members Present: Don Flanders, Chairman, Liz Merry, Dennis Field, Steve Nedeau, Fran Wendelboe, Jeffrey St. Cyr.

Also Present: Sheriff Wiggin, Lt. Cost, Debra Shackett, County Administrator and Representative Boyce

The Sheriff reviewed the budget in detail. There were many questions of the Special Operations program. The Sheriff requested that the Committee add $4702 to his Gas/Oil account and $500 to the Tires account. Rep. Fields made a motion to add $5202 to the Commissioner's budget; it was seconded by Rep. Nedeau and passed with a 7 - 0 vote. Liz Merry made a motion to recommend the Commissioner's total budget as presented which would allow the Commissioners to transfer within the line items as needed; the motion failed for lack of a second. The Committee voted on a bottom line of $1,927,924; it passed with a 6 – 1 vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Debra A Shackett, County Administrator

Sub Committee on the Nursing Home Budget
1/24/09 1:30 PM
Commissioners Meeting Room

Members Present: Fran Wendelboe, Kate Miller, Elaine Swinford, Don Flanders, Dennis Field

Also present: Courtney Marshall, NH Director, Deb Laflamme, NH Human Resources, Debra Shackett, and County Administrator

Director Marshall reviewed the budget by category, answering questions about the differences between the Department request and the Commissioners recommendation. He also explained many areas of nursing home operations.

Members of the Sub committee suggested that we explore a credit to the Department of Corrections for providing labor in the kitchen and laundry. Another suggestion was that we explore the use of interns in the hairdressing department.

The Committee applauded the minimal increase in the budget (1%).

Don Flanders made a motion to recommend the budget as presented, second by Elaine Swinford and voted in the affirmative, 5 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,
Debra Shackett, County Administrator

Sub Committee on Outside Agencies
Conservation District
1/26/09 3:20 PM
Commissioners Meeting Room

Members Present: Laurie Boyce, Judith Reever, Elaine Swinford, Kate Miller, Bill Johnson, Peter Bolster

Also present: Mike Lynch, Ken Kenenering, John Martin, Lisa Morin, and Debra Shackett, County Administrator

Other Representatives present: Dennis Fields, Jim Pilliod, and Alida Millham

Lisa Morin reviewed the program and answered questions about the services they provide. After much debate and a failed vote to approve the Commissioner's initial recommendation of $23,905, a motion was made by Judy Reever, seconded by Elaine Swinford, and voted 3 – 2 to recommend as presented.

Respectfully submitted,
Debra Shackett, County Administrator

Sub Committee on Outside Agencies – CAP
1/26/09 2:30 PM
Commissioners Meeting Room

Members Present: Laurie Boyce, Judith Reever, Elaine Swinford, Liz Merry, Bill Johnson, Peter Bolster

Also present: Brian Hoffman, Pam Jolivette, and Susan Wanuk, and Debra Shackett, County Administrator

Other Representatives present: Dennis Fields, Kate Miller, and Jim Pilliod

Several of CAPs programs were described and the budget reviewed.

There was much discussion on the value of the organization.

The Committee voted unanimously to support the Meals on Wheels and the Rural Transportation requests. Additionally they voted to add funding, as requested, for Family Planning, Pre Natal, and Winnipesaukee Transit System, with Laurie Boyce opposed to all three and Elaine Swinford opposed to Family Planning and Pre natal.

The final out come was to add $18,000 to the Commissioners recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,
Debra Shackett, County Administrator

Sub Committee on Citizen's Council
Belknap County Commissioner's Meeting Room
January 30, 2009 8:00 AM

Members Present: Beth Arsenault, Chairman, Richard Stuart, and Judith Reever. Members absent: Peter Bolster.

Also Present: Alan Robichaud, Executive Director, Debra Shackett, County Administrator and Angela Bovill, Administrative Assistant.

At the previous subcommittee meeting on January 19, 2009, two members we not able to attend. Those two members have since spoken with Executive Director Robichaud and their recommendations have been included.

Rep. Stuart made a motion to support the Commissioner's proposed budget for Citizens council for 2009; it was seconded by Rep. Reever and passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Angela A. Bovill,
Administrative Assistant

Sub Committee on Outside Agencies – Genesis
1/26/09 1:30 PM
Commissioners Meeting Room

Members Present: Laurie Boyce, Judith Reever, Elaine Swinford, Liz Merry, Bill Johnson, Peter Bolster

Also present: Maggie Pritchard, Kelly Untiet, and Debra Shackett, County Administrator

Other Representatives present: Dennis Fields, Kate Miller, and Jim Pilliod

Maggie explained how Genesis operates and what makes up their budget request. She answered specific questions about how this county funding differs from local town funding.

There was much discussion on the value of the organization.

Liz Merry made a motion to recommend adding $34,000 to the budget, second by Judy Reever and voted in the affirmative, 5 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,
Debra Shackett, County Administrator

Sub Committee on LRMFA
1/26/09 9:00 AM
Commissioners Meeting Room

Members Present: Fran Wendelboe, David Russell, Elaine Swinford, Alida Millham, Dennis Field

Also present: Doug Aiken, Rick Heinis, and Debra Shackett, County Administrator

Chief Aiken reviewed the budget and explained how the number is calculated for the request from the County. There was a lot of discussion on the value of having a mutual fire aid and central dispatching center.

There were concerns about the County providing the cash flow to the organization during the first quarter of the year. Others were concerned that some towns might drop out or not be able to appropriate funding if they had to pay directly.

Chief Aiken asked for clarification on who had the final say in deciding if the County continues to run the billing through its tax apportionment or if the municipalities pay directly. The Subcommittee would like to see a study committee work on this issue during the year.

Fran Wendelboe made a motion to recommend the budget as presented, second by Elaine Swinford and voted in the affirmative, 3 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,
Debra Shackett, County Administrator

Sub Committee on Outside Agencies
UNH Cooperative Extension
1/26/09 1:00 PM
Commissioners Meeting Room

Members Present: Laurie Boyce, Judith Reever, Elaine Swinford, Liz Merry, Bill Johnson, Peter Bolster

Also present: Amy Ouellette, Sue Cagle and Debra Shackett, County Administrator

Other Representatives present: Dennis Fields, Kate Miller

The Committee complimented Amy on her presentation of the budget and review of her organization.

Some Committee members were concerned that their communities might not have enough access to the services offered by the Cooperative Extension. Amy explained several programs that offered in different locations. She also invited a member to serve on her advisory council.

Liz Merry made a motion to recommend the budget as presented, second by Bill Johnson and voted in the affirmative, 5 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,
Debra Shackett, County Administrator

Minutes of the
Belknap County Commissioners
and the Executive Committee
February 5, 2009

Commissioner Boothby called the Belknap County Commissioners meeting to order at 7:04 PM on the above date at 34 County Drive, Laconia, NH.

In Attendance: Chairman Christopher Boothby, Vice Chairman Edward Philpot Jr., Clerk Richard Long, and Debra Shackett, County Administrator.

Also in attendance: Representative Dennis Fields, Gil Schohan, Alan Robichaud, Brian Loanes and members of the press.

Invited guests: Senator Kathleen Sgambati and Senator Deborah Reynolds. Judge Willard Martin was also an invited guest, but was unable to attend due to a prior commitment.

1. ***Introductions:*** Commissioners introduced themselves and their invited guests. Commissioner Boothby also introduced the chair of the County Convention, Alida Millham. Chair Millham then introduced the other Executive Committee members Representatives Stephen Nedeau, David Russell, James Pilliod, Donald Flanders, Elizabeth Merry and Beth Arsenault.

2. ***Discussions:*** Commissioner Boothby opened the meeting by stating that the Commissioners and County Convention feel that it is important for everyone to be on the same page as far as legislative issues and policy agenda. Commissioner Boothby and Chair Millham had lunch in an effort to start to open up a dialogue and better communications. It is important to be one team with one mutual agenda and carry our ideas back to Concord. We are all doing the people's business and must work collectively together.

3. ***Acknowledgement:*** Even though his schedule would not permit him to attend tonight's meeting, the Commissioners wanted to publically thank Judge Willard "Bud" Martin for the efforts that he has put forth in addressing Juveniles Services and meeting with the Senators, etc. to open up the dialoged in an effort to come up with a more efficient system in handling our youth.

4. ***Elderly/Juvenile billing/costs:*** Discussions ensued around the issue of elderly and juvenile services and the role change between what the County is now responsible for and what the State is now responsible for. Everyone present owns the responsibility of keeping our kids safe and our elderly taken care of. Senator Sgambati indicated that HB2 was never meant to divide Nursing Home responsibilities and Juvenile responsibilities; only the billing factor was changed to try and simplify the system for how services are billed. It was not for the County and the State to fight over who pays the bills. Commissioner Boothby pointed out that if that were the case and there was no change in the county's responsibility then payments for the county would not have changed. There were discussions.

5. ***Juvenile Services:*** Senator Reynolds complimented that Belknap County has a robust Restorative Justice Program that other counties do not have. These programs save tax payers money in the long run making it very valuable to taxpayers. Belknap County Restorative Justice is a role model for the State. It provides a direct service and benefit to our communities. Senator Sgambati, Senator Reynolds, Judge Martin, Alan Robichaud and others met to try and ratify some short term solutions to keep these programs going while a long term solution and solid plan is achieved. They are working to help with supporting grants, (STAR Grant) etc. They are all trying to join efforts to create a system that makes sense all around. The system needs to be reshaped.

6. ***Funding:*** Mr. Robichaud spoke to the fact that he went to a meeting in Concord today on the committee for diversion programs. There are no bills being passes right now that have a fiscal note attached. There are discussions around the fact of whether or not diversion funds will even exist with all the budget cuts. The State is having financial difficulties and the Governor will be releasing his budget soon.

   There is a clash in funding services. The purpose of everyone present here tonight is to try and create a bridge that will help continue to allow Restorative Justice, Citizens Council continue to serve their purpose until a better funding mechanism is in place. We are all trying to fix the problems in the long term with strategic programming. Rep. Millham remarked that the Citizen's council brings all the players together in paving the road for this system. We need to protect that in the short term.

7. ***Public input:*** The Chair asked for public input twice. There was none.

8. ***Legislative bill relative to Gunstock:*** Commissioner Philpot spoke to the Executive Committee members and asked that they support the amendment to the proposed legislative bill relative to Gunstock. (HB 253 amendment)

9. ***Adjourn:*** The meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Angela A. Bovill, Administrative Assistant

Minutes of the Belknap County Convention Meeting February 9, 2009 at 6:30 PM

Members Present: Representatives Millham, Veazey, Nedeau, Merry, Fields, Pilliod, Bolster, Miller, Flanders, Russell, Boyce, Reever, Wendelboe, Arsenault, Swinford and St. Cyr.

Also present: Commissioners Boothby, Philpot, Administrator Shackett, and Greg Goddard from Gunstock, County Department heads, Admin Assistant Bovill, members of the press, members of the public and outside agencies.

The meeting began with the pledge of allegiance.

1. ***Cell Tower Project:*** Greg Goddard, Gunstock General Manager explained that a new more current tower is needed where the Crown Atlantic LLC tower currently exists on Rowe Ridge. All the local carriers/providers are on that tower. The intention is to construct the new tower right next to the old tower and then to move the existing equipment from the old tower to the new tower. Ultimately, once this is complete, the old tower will be removed. This will be an extension from the term of the current lease. This will provide additional revenue to Gunstock. In addition, the company has agreed to also install 3 additional repeater antennas for Gunstock if they supply the equipment. Greg is also trying to get a camera installed on top at the summit. If he is successful they will install that for Gunstock too. This new agreement will extend the lease out over 50 years (automatically renewing every 5 years). In order for this to take place, it needs to be ratified by the County Convention. M/Reever, S/Boyce to approve and ratify this extension of lease as presented by Gunstock Manager. Rep. Nedeau asked to amend the motion by adding that the old tower needs to be removed within a 60 day period after final completion of the new tower. S/Boyce to include in motion. Discussions ensued. Chair Millham asked for public input. There being none. All in favor. Opposed, none. Unanimously approved. Motion carries.

2. ***HB 253***: Chair Millham explained that last week, HB 253 regarding a change in the Gunstock statute was heard by the House Municipal and County Government Committee. Rep. Pilliod has introduced an amendment in response to the concerns of the County Commissioners. Rep. Pilliod, Bol-

ster, and Boyce all testified. A member of the committee was concerned that the whole delegation had not expressed their opinion regarding the bill as amended. Rep. Millham sent an email out to all members to find out where the members of the Convention are as to being in favor or not in favor of this bill. Alida heard back from all but two representatives and every county convention member was supportive of HB 253 and the amendment. This bill is intended to give the Gunstock Commissioners more flexibility as they work with some limited development on land that they purchased, but is owned by the County. M/Pilliod S/Fields for the record that HB253 is supported by the Belknap County Convention. Chair Millham asked for public input. There being none. All in favor. Opposed, none. Unanimously approved. Motion carries.

3. ***Recess:*** At 6:50 PM the county convention recessed until 7:00 PM, when the next portion of business was scheduled to begin.

4. ***Subcommittee report and budget recommendations:***
Airport Authority, John Veazey, Chair: The Airport subcommittee met on 1/23/09. It is the recommendation of the chair to approve the Commissioners budget recommendation for 2009 of $10,000. Chair Millham asked for public input. There was none.

BCEDC (Belknap County Economic Development Council) Judith Reever, Chair: The BCEDC sub committee met on 1/23/09. It is the recommendation of the chair to restore the funding request of BCEDC. M/ Fields, S/ Flanders to add $75,000 to the Commissioners budget. Chair Millham asked for public questions. There were none. Unanimous. Motion passes.

LRMFA (Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid), David Russell, Chair: The subcommittee met on 1/26/09. They went through the budget line by line. It is the recommendation of the chair to approve the Commissioners budget recommendation for 2009 of 478,356. The subcommittee would like to continue discussing the decision of the Commissioners to no longer fund LRMFA through the County, but rather that LRMFA go directly to the towns as they do for every other town outside of Belknap County. Chair Millham opened for discussion. Commissioners reiterated that they made this decision with allowing one full year to make this transition. Chief Aiken said that the Chiefs from the towns and City in the county need more lead time and he wondered if there was another way to go about this. Rep. Wendelboe

thought it was unfair to leave LRMFA in limbo and that a decision needs to be made in a timely manner. Rep. Arsenault feels that the County is not taking the responsibility and would like to know who has the final authority, the Commissioners or the county Convention. Madam Chair stated that this is a matter that the full delegation will need to address in the near future. Chair Millham asked for public input. There was none.

Citizens Council, Beth Arsenault, Chair: The subcommittee met on 1/19/09 and again on 1/30/09. It is the recommendation of the Chair to approve the Commissioners recommended budget for 2009 of $228,760. Chair Millham asked for public input. There was none.

Courthouse and Administration, Stephen Nedeau, Chair:

a. ***Maintenance:*** The subcommittee met on 1/19/09. The subcommittee agreed to add $5000 for the parking lot to the Commissioners recommended budget. This was the only change that was made. In the spring, they will do some test borings out in the County Complex parking lot to see what kind of ledge, etc is under the pavement causing it to heave so drastically. Something needs to be done. Chair Millham asked for public input. There was none.

b. ***Human Services:*** The subcommittee met on 1/19/09. It is the Chairman's recommendation to approve the Commissioners 2009 budget recommendation of 5,304,229. Chair Millham asked for public input. There was none.

c. ***Registry of Deeds:*** The subcommittee met on 1/19/09. It is the chairman's recommendation to approve the Commissioners 2009 budget recommendations of 515,222. Chair Millham asked for public input. There was none.

d. ***County Attorney's Office:*** This subcommittee met on 1/19/09. It is the Chairman's recommendation that they approve the Commissioners 2009 budget recommendation of 568,020. Chair Millham asked for public input. There was none.

e. ***Administration (Commissioners/Finance):*** The subcommittee met on 1/19/09. There was a change in these budgets that the subcommittee

made that was different from the Commissioners recommendations. The subcommittee recommended discontinuing the use of the county staff vehicle. They recommended approval of the administrative sections of the budgets as presented by the Commissioners. Chair Millham asked for public input. There was none.

Law Enforcement, Donald Flanders, Chair:

a. ***Department of Corrections:*** This subcommittee met on 1/23/09. One of things that were discussed in length was the number of maintenance items that will need to be addressed in the future. Rep. Merry brought the discussion up regarding food for the corrections department and the significant increase. Nursing Home Administrator Marshall explained the food costs. This will be a further discussion for the County Convention to have in the future. It is the recommendation of the chairman to approve the Commissioners 2009 budget recommendations for the Department of Corrections. Chair Millham asked for public input. There was none.

b. ***Restorative Juvenile Justice:*** This subcommittee met on 1/23/09. This was a very lean budget. He also feels this is a positive program for our youths. It was the recommendation of the Chairman to approve the 2009 Commissioners recommended budget with the knowledge that the county convention needs to discuss the future and funding of RJJ. Rep. Wendelboe told the County Convention this was not unanimous vote, but 5-1. Rep. Wendelboe said that with the change in the State law (HB2) giving the county 100% of non federal share of the nursing home costs, the state in turn should have taken 100% of federal costs of juvenile justice. There were discussions among members. Chair Millham asked for public input. There was none.

c. ***Sheriff's Dept.:*** This subcommittee met on 1/12/09. The subcommittee approved an increase in the dollar amount of $5202 for gas, oil, tires of the Sheriff's department vehicles. It is the Chairman s recommendation to add $5202 as indicated into the 2009 Commissioners recommended budget for the Sheriff's Dept. Rep. Merry stated that she made a motion for principal at the subcommittee hearing for the sheriff's department to be able to come up with that money in their $1.9 million dollar budget. It received no support. Rep. Wendelboe brought up discussions on video appearances. This will also be something the County Convention

addresses in the future meeting. Chair Millham asked for public input. There was none.

Nursing Home, Fran Wendelboe, Chair: This subcommittee met on 1/24/09. The committee commended the Nursing Home Administrator on obtaining the skilled care piece at the nursing home. It has increased the revenue greatly. It was the recommendation of the Chair to go approve Commissioners 2009 budget recommendation for the Nursing Home of $11,209,403. Chair Millham asked for public input. There was none.

Outside Agencies, Laurie Boyce, Chair:

a. ***Cooperative Extension Service:*** This subcommittee met on 1/26/09. It is the recommendation of the Chair to approve the 2009 Commissioners budget recommendation of $143,898. Chair Millham asked for public input. There was none.

b. ***Conservation District:*** This subcommittee met on 1/26/09. It is the recommendation of the chair to approve the Commissioners budget recommendation for 2009 of $95,159. Chair Millham asked for public input. There was none.

c. ***Community Action Program (CAP):*** This subcommittee met on 1/26/09. The subcommittee voted to add the original funding requests from CAP to the 2009 Commissioners recommended budget that the Commissioners had removed. It was the recommendation of the chair that $5000 for family planning, $5,000 for the Winnipesaukee transit and $8,000 for pre natal be added to the Commissioners 2009 budget for a total budget amount for CAP at $50,905. Chair Millham asked for public input. There was none.

d. ***Genesis:*** This subcommittee met on 1/26/09. It was the recommendation of the subcommittee that the 2009 funding request of Genesis be added to the 2009 Commissioners budget in the amount of $34,000. Chair Millham asked for public input. There was none.

Madam Chair spoke with the County Convention members to let them know that if they are comfortable on voting on the 2009 Commissioners Budget tonight, that a vote can be taken. Otherwise, they can meet again on March

2, 2009 to vote on the budget. M/Boyce, S/Swinford to include the amendments to the 2009 Commissioners budget (BCEDC, Maintenance, Genesis, CAP and the Sheriff's). M/Merry S/Fields to accept the Commissioners 2009 budget with the recommendations of all sub committees. Chair Millham asked for public input. There was none. Unanimous. Motion passes. The approved budget totals $28,837,371.00

5. ***Belknap County Registry of Deeds 2009 Resolution:*** There was a copy of the 2009 resolution from the Registry of Deeds. Rep. Nedeau read this document out loud. M/Nedeau S/Flanders to approve appropriations to be paid out of the county treasury from the Deeds equipment account, specifically $36,600 for computer indexing and $3,400 for the Kyocera copier totaling $40,000. Unanimous. Motion carries.

6. ***Adjourn:*** M/Arsenault, S/Wendelboe to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 PM. Unanimous. Motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,
Angela A. Bovill
Administrative Assistant

A true record Attest:
Beth Arsenault, Clerk of the County Convention

Executive Committee Minutes
Belknap County Convention
March 2, 2009

Chair Alida Millham called the meeting of the Belknap County Convention Executive committee to order at 4:00 PM on the above date at 34 County Drive, Laconia, NH and started with the pledge of allegiance.

In Attendance: Representatives Millham, Merry, Nedeau, Pilliod, Arsenault, Debra Shackett, County Administrator, Marie Mora, Assistant Finance Officer, and Michael Muzzey Treasurer.

Absent: Representatives Flanders and Russell.

1. ***Tax Anticipation Notes (TAN's)***: The County Treasurer has come before the Executive Committee per RSA 29:8 to seek authorization to borrow up to $14 million in anticipation of taxes for calendar year 2009. The Commissioners approved this authorization at their February 19, 2009 meeting. Treasurer Muzzey explained how the estimated cash flow statement for the year determined where the county sees its largest deficit. The county is allowed to borrow up to a certain amount in anticipation of taxes. County Administrator Shackett noted that county will only borrow $7.5 million at this time. There was discussion.

   M/Nedeau to allow the County to borrow up to $14 million in anticipation in taxes for 2009. S/Pilliod for discussion. Rep. Merry inquired about billing the towns' bi-annually for taxes. Administrator Shackett is researching as the Commissioners also wanted that information. Chair Millham asked if they were ready for the vote. All in favor. Y/Millham, Y/Merry, Y/Pilliod, Y/Nedeau, Y/Arsenault. Opposed – None. Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

2. ***Memo:*** Alida distributed a memo for the members to take and review. The memo was regarding forums about county government and a foundation on which to proceed. It will be discussed at a different date, but Rep. Millham wanted the members to have.

3. ***Joint Underwriters Assoc:*** Rep. Pilliod announced that he discovered

last week that the Governor was going to authorize the taking of reserve monies from Heath Care facilities and that he was doing so with no legal authorization. Rep. Pilliod wanted to make sure the members were informed.

4. ***Letter from Fire Chief:*** Rep. Merry has a copy of a letter that she received from Ken Erickson, the Fire Chief of Laconia. The letter was regarding budget issues. The other members have not received. Rep. Merry gave to AA Bovill to copy and distribute to all 18 delegation members.

5. ***Adjourn:*** M/Nedeau, S/Merry to adjourn at 4:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Angela A. Bovill, Administrative Assistant

Minutes of the Belknap County Convention
Meeting May 11, 2009 at 7:00 PM

Members Present: Representatives Swinford, Fields, Reever, Johnson, Merry, Miller, Flanders, Pilliod, Arsenault, Millham, Russell, Boyce, Stuart and Wendelboe.

Absent: Nedeau, Bolster and Veazey.

Also present: Commissioners Boothby, Philpot and Long, Administrator Shackett, Assistant Finance Director Mora, Admin Assistant Bovill.

Call to order: Chair Alida Millham called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The meeting began with the pledge of allegiance

1. ***Public hearing:*** Chair Millham opened the public hearing to Administrator Shackett to explain the refinancing of a county bond. The bond was taken out in 1997 for 6.7 million dollars. There is currently $3 million left to pay on that bond. Administrator Shackett stated that this bond refinance would not extend the term of the pay off schedule. Rep Johnson asked what these bonds were originally for. Ms. Shackett believed it was for the Nursing Home renovation project. Rep. Fields asked if they are asking the County Convention or telling them as far as terms, bottom line, etc. Chair Millham stated that they are requesting approval of the Convention, thus the public hearing. Administrator Shackett went on to explain that by refinancing the $3 million that is left, we are not taking on any additional debt, and we are not extending the term. It will save the County approximately $200,000 or 3%. Administrator Shackett is requesting authorization to allow the treasurer to finalize the terms. Chair Millham said to let the record reflect that the term cannot be extended. Administrator Shackett reiterated for the members that this is just a refinance. It is not a new issue and is not extending the terms. Only the rate of interest is changing. Chair Millham asked for public input twice. There was none.

2. ***Action on resolution:*** M/Johnson to approve the resolution to authorize the issuance of refunding the bond. S/Flanders. Rep Johnson read the resolution in its entirety aloud for the record. Chair Millham called for the vote. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carries.

3. ***Quarterly review of the Belknap County Budget:*** Administrator Shackett gave the quarterly review of the budget. This usually is done with the Executive committee on a quarterly basis, but tonight we have the

advantage of the full county convention. Ms. Shackett started with the revenue. There were no questions. Next Ms. Shackett went through the expenses in the General Fund and items to be noted. Then the Nursing Home budget was reviewed. Rep. Wendelboe asked if there was any word on additional revenues from the FMAP. Commissioners have not discussed this yet; they just received an email on it this afternoon. Further research will be done on this matter.

4. ***Presentation on public awareness meetings:*** Commissioner Boothby went through the power point presentation that the County Administrator prepared. This presentation is the joint collaboration of the County Commissioners and the County Convention for their public awareness campaign. This lead to open conversations for input from the County Convention members of what their thoughts are before it is presented at each town selectman's meeting. Ultimately what will transpire is a meeting with all the Belknap County towns' select boards/city council will take place preferably in June. From that point, all the information that was gathered will be put together and then the County Convention and County Commissioners will hold public forums. This will be great open communication in an effort for everyone to have a voice and to try to join forces as we enter into the budgeting season and the challenges that are ahead.

5. ***Draft meeting dates:*** County Convention members received a draft schedule of when the meetings will take place through the towns and city in Belknap County. This is still being finalized. Chair Millham indicated that members were not required to attend all meetings, it was a choice. Madam chair would like to see members at the meeting of the towns that they represent. It could also be beneficial to attend one outside of your district to learn about the different needs in the various communities. Commissioner Boothby indicated that County Convention members should let Ms. Bovill in the Commissioner Office know what meetings they will plan to attend.

6. ***Public input:*** Chair Millham asked for any public input. There was none.

7. ***Adjourn:*** Unanimous motion to adjourn at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Angela A. Bovill, Administrative Assistant

A true record Attest:
Beth Arsenault, Clerk of the County Convention

Minutes of the Belknap County Convention Meeting June 16, 2009 at 6:00 PM

Members Present: Representatives Fields, Veazey, Johnson, Pilliod, Boyce, Millham, Flanders, Merry, Miller, Reever, Bolster, St. Cyr, Nedeau, Russell, Swinford.

Absent: Wendelboe, Stuart, and Arsenault.

Also present: Commissioners Boothby, Philpot and Long, Administrator Shackett.

Call to order: Chair Alida Millham called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. The meeting began with the pledge of allegiance

PolEcon report: Mr. Gottlob came to the County Convention meeting tonight to give a power point presentation and review in detail the report from PolEcon Research regarding the impact of HB2 on Belknap County. Mr. Gottlob went through the history of how we got to HB2 and the implications it had as far as cost shifting the elderly and juvenile services between the State and the Counties.

There was discussion. Chair Millham would like to send a letter to our State Senators. M/Merry, S/Swinford to send a letter to the Senators. Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn at 7:30 PM. Unanimous. Motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,
Debra A. Shackett, County Administrator

A true record Attest:
Beth Arsenault, Clerk of the County Convention

Minutes of the Belknap County Convention
Executive Committee
Meeting July 27, 2009 at 6:30 PM

Members Present: Representatives Flanders, Pilliod, Arsenault, Millham, Russell, Merry and Nedeau.

Absent: None.

Also present: Representatives Swinford, Fields, St. Cyr, Wendelboe, Miller, Veazey, Reever, Johnson and Boyce. County Administrator Shackett, members of the public and the press.

Call to order: Chair Alida Millham called the executive committee meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Budget update from Administrator Shackett: Ms. Shackett distributed a detailed print out of both revenue and expense budgets including all activity through July 25, 2009. Ms. Shackett first addressed the revenue side of the budget. She pointed out some highlighted areas for convenience. There were matters of concern on the revenue side of the budget at this time.

Ms. Shackett proceeded with the expense side of the budget. One of the items addressed in the finance section was the software training. Every time Unifund (the finance software company) comes to the county to do a day of training, it costs $1400. Rep. Swinford asked if there was someone internal that could do training. Answer, no. Rep Wendelboe wanted to know if we could video tape the training session for future use. Answer, no, every use of the software for various individuals utilizing is different. Rep Wendelboe wants a copy of the Unifund software contract. Rep. Swinford said it was unfortunate that Software Company did not have a manual as that would be something to hold them too. There was a question of another counties IT person who uses this software coming to Belknap County to train. This will not benefit Belknap County.

Rep Wendelboe questioned who authorized the expenditures relative to all the advertising /publicity for the county conversations. Administrator Shackett answered the Commissioners authorized. Rep Wendelboe questioned if they have

the authority to do so. Chair Millham stated they have the authority. Rep Wendelboe felt costs were too much and wanted to that for the record. Ms. Shackett wrapped up the General Fund and said it was in good shape at this point.

Ms. Shackett then summarized the Nursing Home budget. The issue of property liability was discussed. Rep. Wendelboe wanted a listing of every department broken down in the Nursing Home budget for property liability and workers compensation. Ms. Shackett stated that she would provide a listing with a breakdown of professional liability, workers comp and health insurance. Rep Merry questioned overtime and wanted to know if Ms. Shackett could track the overtime in 2009 vs. 2009 in the nursing home.

Discussions ensued. M/Nedeau to accept the budget report as presented by the County Administrator, S/Merry. Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Adjourn: Unanimous vote to adjourn the Executive Committee meeting at 7:14 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Angela A. Bovill, Administrative Assistant

A true record Attest:
Beth Arsenault, Clerk of the County Convention

Minutes of the Belknap County Convention Meeting July 27, 2009 at 7:00 PM

Members Present: Representatives Flanders, Pilliod, Arsenault, Millham, Russell, Merry, Nedeau Swinford, Fields, St. Cyr, Wendelboe, Miller, Veazey, Reever, Johnson and Boyce.

Absent: Representatives Bolster and Stuart.

Also present: Greg Goddard, Gunstock General Manager, County Administrator Shackett, members of the public and the press.

Call to order/Public hearing on RAN (revenue anticipation note) for Gunstock: Chair Alida Millham called the full county convention meeting to order at 7:15 PM and opened up the public hearing on the Revenue Anticipation Note request from the Gunstock Recreation Area. Chair Millham then opened the floor to Greg Goddard, Gunstock General Manager for an over view and updates. Mr. Goddard stated that Gunstock had an excellent year. Offering a number of different activities on their venue has certainly added to their revenue. They are currently doing lot of maintenance projects and general improvements throughout the area. Also, Mr. Goddard updated the County Convention that HB 253 passed the NH House and the Senate and he thanked the members, particularly Rep. Pilliod for championing this.

Mr. Goddard stated that it has been 5 years since the resorts master plan was updated. A multi season recreation plan will be part of this process, which will be conducted over the next 6-9 months. Work has begun on the new lift that was approved; all the parts are on site and are ready to be assembled. All of the necessary concrete has been poured and they will be ready to move forward with that project.

Mr. Goddard then requested approval from the Convention to borrow up to $950,000 in anticipation of next season's revenues. Mr. Goddard stated that in 2008, Gunstock only used $850,000 and believes that is the same amount that they anticipate to use in 2009. Representative Merry asked Mr. Goddard what was the percent of interest projected. Mr. Goddard responded that $10,000 was budgeted, but current rates are around 2 percent which would most likely end up

around $2,000 - $3,000. Madam Chair asked if there was any public input.

Tom Tardif, Laconia: When will the current bonded debt be paid off and how much is it?

Answer: About $7.6 million left in current bonded debt, majority which are old bonds (the two new ones were in 2003 and 2008). The old ones are 20 years bonds and those will be paid off in the near future.

Lisa Morin, Laconia: Stated that the Conservation District built a boardwalk for the Area.

Doug Lambert, Gilford: Questioned on the budgeting the figure for depreciation on the RAN.

Answer: Gunstock in not a municipal model (like the county) but rather a private model in that they expense very expensive assets over time and show the cost through depreciation.

With no further public input Madam Chair asked if the Convention was ready for the motion. M/Pilliod, S/Johnson "Pursuant to the authority of Chapter 399:15, 1959 NH Laws as amended, to authorize the Belknap County Treasurer to issue notes, on the concurrence of not less than four members of the Gunstock Area Commission, in the amount not to exceed Nine Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars ($950,000), on such terms and conditions as shall be negotiated by the Gunstock Area Commission. Said notes are issued in anticipation of revenues at Gunstock Ski Area and shall have a maturity date of not later than April 1, 2010. All notes issued pursuant to this authority shall contain an express provision that all fees, fares, and tolls as authorized by statue shall continue to be collected until such notes have matured. The Gunstock Area Commission shall pay the principal and interest on said notes out of revenue collected by Gunstock Area". The Roll Call Vote on the Motion was as follows: Y/Arsenault, Y/Boyce, Y/Fields, Y/Flanders, Y/Johnson, Y/Merry, Y/Miller, Y/Millham, Y/Nedeau, Y/Pilliod, Y/Reever, Y/Russell, Y/St. Cyr, Y/Swinford, Y/Veazey, and Y/Wendelboe. **Motion passes Unanimously.**

The public hearing on the RAN was closed at 7:30 PM.

Non Public session: Motion to enter into a non public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (e) considering litigation which has been filed against the body. Roll call vote on the motion as follows: Y/Arsenault, Y/Boyce, Y/Fields, Y/Flanders, Y/John-

son, Y/Merry, Y/Miller, Y/Millham, Y/Nedeau, Y/Pilliod, Y/Reever, Y/Russell, Y/St. Cyr, Y/Swinford, Y/Veazey, and Y/Wendelboe. **Unanimous approval by roll call vote and the Convention was in non-public session at 7:40 PM.**

Non public session was concluded by a unanimous vote at 8:14 PM. While in non-public session, no actions were taken and no decisions were made.

Laconia Prison Property discussion: Chair Millham brought up the issue that there is a commission that is being formed and they are due to have a full report and recommendations that will be due September of 2010. Alida wanted to make sure that this issue was on everyone's minds.

County Conversations briefing: A two page document with a briefing of all the County Conversations was given to the County Convention members. This was very useful. Discussion ensued. Administrator Shackett confirmed that the public forum, (which is the first follow up meeting to the county conversations), will take place on Wednesday, August 12, 2009 at 6:00 PM. Madam Chair opened up the meeting for input:

Rep Merry asked what will be the position of the county and expectations that stem from this meeting.

Rep Wendelboe: These were good listening sessions, but thought that a meeting with just selectmen invited would be more productive. The listening session did not have a lot of public present and that is why she thought this would have been a better route. Noting it is invaluable for outreach to the towns and their elected officials.

Administrator Shackett: The intention of the forum is for all selectmen from all the towns and the council from the city are invited and encouraged to speak at the meeting. The outcome of this forum will give a consensus on how to move forward with the Commissioners plans.

Rep. Boyce: Should the meeting be moved to the courthouse due to number of attendees. This will be determined as the date draws near.

Rep. Pilliod: Went to all but 2 conversations. Discovered that the towns don't know all of what is involved in the count y structure. The County provides a lot

more than some knew. One thing that is clear and all agree is that no one wants to get rid of anything, rather they are service oriented discussions.

Approval of minutes: M/Swinford, S/Wendelboe to approve the 5/11/09 minutes. Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Mileage reimbursement form: A new form has been created for the county convention members to use in submitting for mileage/meeting reimbursement for county business. This will be how members are paid.

Adjourn: With no further business and no further public comment, the meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote at 8:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Angela A. Bovill, Administrative Assistant

A true record Attest:
Beth Arsenault, Clerk of the County Convention

Minutes of the Belknap County Convention Meeting August 25, 2009 at 7:00 PM

Members Present: Representatives Flanders, Stuart, Millham, Russell, Merry, Nedeau, Swinford, Fields, St. Cyr, Wendelboe, Miller, Veazey, Reever, Johnson, Bolster and Boyce.

Absent: Representatives Pilliod and Arsenault.

Also present: County Administrator Debra Shackett, County Commissioners Philpot, Long, members of the public and the press.

1. ***Pledge of allegiance/Point of order challenge:*** The pledge of allegiance was lead by Rep. Nedeau. Chair Alida Millham opened the meeting. Immediately, questions were raised about the process for posting the meeting and answered. Madam Chair opened the public hearing on the supplemental request. Madam Chair then read the order of business for tonight's hearing. Chair Millham then turned the meeting over to Administrator Shackett for a power point presentation detailing the request for the supplemental appropriation.

2. ***Request for Supplemental Appropriation:*** Ms. Shackett explained the Commissioners request for a supplemental appropriation in the amount of $30,818.50 to be added to the revenue and expenses for the Belknap County Sheriff's Department along with the details of how the monies will be spent. Rep. Bolster asked if the Sheriff department was still getting a 10% admin fee. The answer is no. Although the grant allows for those fees, the County waived it to allow all the participating towns to receive and utilize their full share. Rep. Bolster thanked the County as he is an Alton selectman and appreciates that act.

3. ***Public Input:*** Mr. Tom Tardif/Laconia was acknowledged. Mr. Tardiff urged the County Convention to be transparent by taking the time to do this right and not to take a vote this evening.

   Mr. Doug Lambert/Gilford indicated that he has a lot of concerns over the SWAT/Special Ops group. Mr. Lambert asked the County Conven-

tion to use their powers and do what is right. It is the law, and that the public and convention can do this together because "you are me". He begged for transparency.

Sheriff Craig Wiggin responded that there has been more transparency in this grant than he has ever seen. The County is in compliance with the Department of Justice (DOJ) grant requirements.

4. ***Public hearing closed:*** Madam Chair closed public comment at 7:45 PM.

5. ***Motions:*** M/Russell, S/Nedeau to approve for the authorization and distribution of the DOJ Grant under the terms set forth in the grant with the approval of $30,818.50 to be included as revenue and expense in the Belknap County Sheriff's Department Budget. Rep. Wendelboe informed the public that at the State, level no one ever comes in first before applying for a grant – once they receive the grant, they make the request to expend the funds and it is then that they are given authorization. The County is meeting the grant requirements through the whole process. She finds it very surprising that every other county in the State is doing this but we are the only ones being challenged. We are acting in good faith. If we do not apply for these grants, then someone else will. Rep. Boyce pointed out that the county Convention has been very transparent in that they have had 8 meetings in the last 5 months. All public. Rep. Bolster explained the process in the town of Alton. Rep. Veazey asked who maintained the equipment after we receive it. Rep. Fields stated that he believes that the County Conventions doing what they need to do by following the process for this grant. Rep. Swinford said that in Barnstead, people are researching grants all the time. Rep. Nedeau moved the question. Madam Chair asked if they were ready for the vote: All in favor - YES. Opposed – None. Unanimous. **Motion carries.** M/Russell, S/St. Cyr to authorize the distribution by treasurer under the terms of the grant. Madam Chair asked if they were ready for the vote: All in favor – YES. Opposed – None. Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

6. ***Other business:*** Madam Chair asked if there were any representatives that would like to meet to discuss some other areas of need that were not touched upon in the county conversations. This includes items like

Long Term Care, Mental Health, etc. Representatives Millham, Swinford, Nedeau, Johnson, Miller, Bolster, Merry and Boyce all volunteered.

7. ***Approval of minutes:*** M/Reever, S/Boyce at approve the 6/16/09, 7/27/09 Executive Committee, 7/27/09 non public and the regular 7/27/09 meeting minutes of the County convention. All in favor. Unanimous. Motion carries.

8. Adjourn: M/Russell, S/Boyce to adjourn meeting at 8:05 PM. Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Respectfully submitted,
Angela A. Bovill, Administrative Assistant

A true record Attest:
Beth Arsenault, Clerk of the County Convention

Minutes of the Belknap County Convention Meeting October 5, 2009 at 7:00 PM

Members Present: Representatives Veazey, Johnson, St. Cyr, Nedeau, Fields, Millham, Miller, Merry, Wendelboe, Pilliod, Swinford, Boyce, Russell, Bolster

Absent: Representatives Flanders, Reever, Stuart and Arsenault.

Also present: County Administrator Debra Shackett, County Commissioner Boothby, Courtney Marshall, Norman O'Neil, one member of the public and the press.

Madam Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and the pledge of allegiance was recited.

Presentation on Supplemental Appropriation request: Madam Chair turned the meeting over to Ms. Shackett, County Administrator and Commissioner Christopher Boothby for the request for a supplemental appropriation pursuant to RSA 24:14 – (a). Ms. Shackett went through a power point presentation outlining the request, the budget fundamentals, and the proposal. The proposal is to add $115,000 to both the revenue and expenses of the Nursing Home budget. The net effect = NO additional taxes to be raised. (Still raising $14,394,060 in taxes, no effect on that at all). The Commissioners intend to use the money to repave the Nursing Home parking lot. This will eliminate the pot holes, craters, etc. that surface in the winter creating dangerous conditions as well as adding some additional parking lot places. Ms. Shackett reiterated that there is no tax impact. County Convention members Merry, Swinford, Pilliod, Johnson, St. Cyr, Wendelboe, Bolster, Fields all had questions. Rep. Nedeau spoke on behalf of the fact that this has been an item that they have tried to request into eh Nursing Home budget for the last 4 years and hopes the county convention will approve to move forward with this project.

Madam Chair asked for public input twice. There was none. Madam Chair closed the public hearing at 7:16 Pm.

M/Nedeau, S/Swinford to approve the requester for supplemental appropriation as presented by Administrator Shackett. Madam chair called for a vote. All in

favor. Zero opposed. Unanimous. **Motion carries. The Chair and the Clerk of the County Convention will sign the MS-42.**

Recovery Zone Bond: After much discussion, the County Convention agreed to waive the county's Recovery Zone Bonding allocation. This will allow for the possibility of Belknap County benefiting from economic development opportunities. M/Swinford, S/Nedeau to approve the request to waive the County's Recovery Zone Facilities Bond volume cap allocation. Madam chair called for a vote. All in favor. Zero opposed. Unanimous. Motion carries.

3rd quarter budget review: Administrator Shackett presented a review of the 2009 budget.

Retirement: Commissioner Boothby also informed the County Convention that the Superintendent of the Department of Corrections, Richard Grenier is retiring effective December 1, 2009 after 33 loyal and dedicated years of serving Belknap County residents.

Approval of the 8/25/09 County Convention meeting minutes: M/Fields, S/Merry to approve the minutes of the 8/25/09 meeting as presented. . Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Adjourn: With no further business to come before the members, M/Fields, S/Merry to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 PM. Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Respectfully submitted,
Angela A. Bovill, Administrative Assistant

A true record Attest:
Beth Arsenault, Clerk of the County Convention

Minutes of the Belknap County Convention Meeting October 19, 2009 at 7:00 PM

Members Present: Representatives Veazey, St. Cyr, Nedeau, Fields, Millham, Miller, Merry, Pilliod, Swinford, Boyce, Russell, Bolster

Absent: Representatives Wendelboe, Stuart and Johnson.

Also present: County Administrator Debra Shackett, County Commissioner Boothby, Courtney Marshall, Norman O'Neil, one member of the public and the press. Interviewees: Cris Blackstone, Robert Durfee, David Gammon and David Varney.

Gunstock Area Commissioner: Madam Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and the pledge of allegiance was recited. Chair Millham explained that there are four candidates that are scheduled for interviews for a Gunstock Area Commissioner this evening; all four candidates will be interviewed. Then a vote will take place. This whole process will be open to the public. Rep. Pilliod will be in charge of the interviews, and Chair Millham handed them meting over to Rep. Pilliod.

Interview #1, Cris Blackstone from Alton Bay, NH.
Interview #2, David Gammon from Laconia, NH.
Interview #3, David Varney from Belmont, NH.
Interview #4, Robert Durfee from Laconia, NH.

Interviews concluded at 8:26 AM and Chair called for a brief recess. At 8:33 PM, the Convention reconvened for a vote.

Representative	Vote #1	Vote#2
Millham	Durfee	Durfee
Miller	Blackstone	Blackstone
St. Cyr	Blackstone	Blackstone
Fields	Durfee	Durfee
Merry	Varney	Blackstone
Flanders	Durfee	Durfee
Reever	Blackstone	Blackstone
Arsenault	Blackstone	Blackstone
Pilliod	Durfee	Durfee

Representative	Vote #1	Vote#2
Russell	Blackstone	Blackstone
Boyce	Durfee	Durfee
Nedeau	Varney	Durfee
Bolster	Blackstone	Blackstone
Swinford	Durfee	Durfee
Veazey	Durfee	Durfee

Vote #1: Durfee receives 7; Blackstone receives 6; Varney receives 2

- Calls for a second vote between Blackstone and Durfee

Vote #2: Durfee receives 8; Blackstone receives 7.

M/Russell, S/Boyce to appoint Robert Durfee as Gunstock Area Commissioner. **Motion carries.**

Adjourn: Unanimous vote to adjourn at 8:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Angela A. Bovill, Administrative Assistant

A true record Attest:
Beth Arsenault, Clerk of the County Convention

Minutes of the Belknap County Convention
Executive Committee Meeting
December 2, 2009 at 4:00 PM

Members Present: Representatives, Nedeau, Millham, Merry, Pilliod, Flanders, Russell.

Absent: Representative Arsenault.

Also present: County Administrator Debra Shackett and County Attorney James Carroll.

Open Meeting: Alida Millham, Chair called the meeting to order at 4:03 PM and the pledge of allegiance was recited.

Transfer request: Madam Chair turned over the meeting to Administrator Shackett. Ms. Shackett is seeking approval from the Executive Committee for a transfer from the contingency fund to the Courthouse roof project. (There is already $120,000 appropriated for this project.) Ms. Shackett is requesting approval for $27,000. Ms. Shackett explained that in examining the roof during a walk through, it was discovered that there is another section where the roof has pulled back several inches from the building and there is water leaking into the Deeds office due to this. Ms. Shackett stated that it would make sense to roll this right into the project while the contractors are there. There was discussion. All concur that it certainly makes the most sense both financially and time wise to incorporate into he project and complete all at once. M/Flanders, S/Nedeau to approve the transfer of $27,000 from the contingency fund to the courthouse roof line item of the budget. Unanimous vote. **Motion carries.**

Non Meeting per RSA 91-A: 2, I, (b): M/Merry S/Flanders to conclude the Executive Committee meeting and enter into a non meeting for consultation with their legal counsel per RSA 91-A: 2, I, (b). Unanimous vote. **Motion carries.**

Respectfully submitted,
Angela A. Bovill, Administrative Assistant

A true record Attest:
Beth Arsenault, Clerk of the County Convention

Minutes of the Belknap County Convention Meeting December 7, 2009 at 7:00 PM

Members Present: Representatives Johnson, Merry, Miller, Stuart, Flanders, Pilliod, Russell, Millham, Boyce, Swinford, Nedeau, Fields, Veazey,

Absent: Representatives Arsenault, Reever, Bolster, Wendelboe and St. Cyr.

Also present: County Commissioners Boothby and Philpot, County Administrator Debra Shackett, County department heads, outside agencies, member of the public and the press.

Madam Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and the pledge of allegiance was recited. Madam Chair made introductions of delegation members and the Commissioners then opened the public hearing.

Commissioner's presentation of the 2010 Belknap County Budget: Madam Chair turned the meeting over to the Commissioners for their presentation of the 2010 budget. Commission Chairman, Christopher Boothby went through a detailed power point presentation. Commissioners discussed their budgetary goals when preparing the 2010 budget. Commissioners reviewed that there would be no cost of living increases in the 2010 budget and that there is no increase budgeted for any elected officials. Commissioner Boothby then highlighted key budget points throughout every department. In conclusion, Commissioners reviewed potential projects planned for 2010 using ARRA (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act) funds.

Commissioner Boothby presented one new item that was not included in the power point. This was the fact that the State of NH was planning to reduce our Nursing Home revenues by approximate 7% (or a net result based on the numbers of $139,000). Commissioners called upon the delegation members (as resprestatives) to prevent this additional tax burden being passed onto Belknap County by the State. Commissioners also informed the members that the New Hampshire Association of Counties is actively following this. Commissioner's presentation concluded at 8:15 AM.

Madam chair announced that the next part of the budget process will be the sub-committee work sessions.

Madam chair opened the meeting for any public comment. Gail Ober/Laconia front the Citizen Newspaper asked for clarification on a subject. Mr. Thomas Tardif/Laconia expressed his comments on grant procedures. Mr. Thomas Garfield spoke to the fact that he understood the reduction in the BCEDC budget but indicated that he feels the space that the county is offering for BCEDC offices might be insufficient.

Madam Chari closed the public portion of the meeting at 8:37 PM.

Approval of minutes: M/Merry, S/Boyce to approve the 12/02/09 Executive Committee meeting minutes. Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Adjourn: **Motion to adjourn passed unanimously at 8:40 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,
Angela A. Bovill, Administrative Assistant

A true record Attest:
Beth Arsenault, Clerk of the County Convention